

Hafa Adai!

Jin Air to fly to Saipan in June. **PAGE 2**

Cop's house in As Lito shot repeatedly. **PAGE 2**

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75¢

FOLLOWING DISTRICT COURT'S RULING Radich couple now looking forward to own handgun

» **AG: For over 40 years, CNMI Weapons Control Act protected people from gun violence**

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

U.S. Navy veteran David J. Radich and his wife, Li-Rong, are now looking forward to being able to own a handgun in the Commonwealth, according to their counsel, Daniel Guidotti.

US Congress drafts language impeding on financial authority of CNMI govt

By **DENNIS B. CHAN**
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres disclosed yesterday there is legislation floating in U.S. Congress that could impose financial controls over the local government through a federal government board or commission, possibly infringing on the CNMI's right to self-government and right to steer its own economy.

Torres met with Delegate

Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) yesterday on the matter, saying the issue ties into Puerto Rico and "their bankruptcy" or legislation proposed to help ease the territory's financial crisis.

Sablan confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* that he did meet with Torres on issues from China/Russia parole, contract worker issues, 902 consultations, "and about the potential for an April 12, See **CONGRESS on Page 4**

In an interview yesterday, Guidotti said he believes that U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona made the right ruling and that his clients are happy with the results of their lawsuit.

Guidotti said Manglona's ruling was in line with the rights granted to the people of the CNMI under the U.S. Constitution and the Covenant particularly Section 501 (a).

See **RADICH on Page 4**

Handgun legalization viewed as a game-changer in CNMI

By **FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON**
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REPORTERS

A significant impact, especially in ensuring security in the CNMI, is expected to be felt as handguns will soon be legalized in the Commonwealth.

According to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, le-



Torres

See **HANDGUN on Page 4**



MUSIC FROM LAND OF THE RISING SUN

Tsugaru Syamisen bandleader Saratsu Risu, left, performs with members of her group in front of the *man'amko* at the Office on Aging Center in China Town yesterday.

JON PEREZ

See story on **Page 5**

INSIDE



LOCAL

The Office of the Aging received locally produced watermelons Wednesdays as gifts from Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog.

» **PAGE 13**



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The FBI's announcement that it mysteriously hacked into an iPhone is a public setback for Apple Inc.

» **PAGE 23**



LIFE & STYLE

Puff Daddy will celebrate the late Notorious B.I.G.'s birthday with a concert featuring Lil Kim, Faith Evans, Mary J. Blige and Jay Z.

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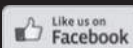
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Local

Jin Air to fly to Saipan in June

By FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON
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REPORTER

Jin Air, a South Korean low-cost carrier, will be flying to the CNMI starting June.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres confirmed that the airline will be servicing Saipan beginning June 9, 2016.

According to information provided by the Commonwealth Ports Authority, Jin Air has expressed its desire in operating daily flights from Seoul (via Incheon), South Korea to Saipan and vice versa beginning June 9.

They will be utilizing a B738 or a Boeing 737-800 aircraft with 183 seats.

Their daily schedule, effective until Oct. 29 and as published also in Jin Air's website, will have flight LJ651 depart Seoul at 7:30am Korea time and arrive in Saipan at 1:10pm Chamorro time. Flight LJ652 will depart Saipan at 2:10pm

Chamorro time and arrive in Seoul at 6:05pm, Korea time.

Jin Air is a wholly-owned subsidiary of South Korea's flag carrier, Korean Air, which used to service the CNMI route until the early 2000s.

Prior to its return in 2002, Korean Air has been providing service to Saipan for 14 years until it suspended operations due to the tragic crash in Guam in 1997 where 230 people were killed. Korean Air used to ferry an average of 12,000 passengers to the CNMI.

Jin Air is now the third Korean airline to operate on Saipan, after Asiana Airlines and Jeju Air.

According to the Marianas Visitors Authority, they have been working with Jin Air on the launch of the new services.

MVA and Jin Air will conduct major online promotions from mid-March to announce Jin Air's new service and to boost advance ticket sales.

Cop's house in As Lito shot repeatedly

A house of a patrol police officer in As Lito was shot repeatedly with a rifle Wednesday late afternoon.

A source at the Department of Public Safety disclosed that three bullets from a rifle hit the concrete wall and that no one was hurt.

The officer was not in the

house as he was working at that time.

The source said the wife, however, was in the house when the shooting happened.

Police officers responded but could not find anyone from the jungle area, where the shooter possibly posi-

See COP'S on Page 4

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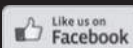
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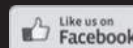
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Women's Summit focused on equality, empowering women



FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON

CNMI Women's Association secretary Jacqueline Che served as chair of the two-day annual Women's Summit held at Kanoa Resort.

By **FRAULEINE VILLANUEVA-DIZON**
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REPORTER

Equality and empowering women in the CNMI was the focus of the two-day annual Women's Summit held at Kanoa Resort.

The summit, spearheaded by the CNMI Women's Association, followed the International Women's Day theme, which is "Pledge for Parity" and added another theme which is "Why Women, Why Now, Why You."

A series of talks and panel discussions were held on both days.

"The focal point of each of the talks is all about women and empowering women to step out of their comfort zones and to be empowered to take on that leadership role whether it be in their homes, or in the community," CWA secretary and summit chair Jacqueline Che said.

Speakers include Lady Diann Torres, Rita Chong, and Velma Palacios for the Women as Leaders segment; Shir-

ley Dotts, Vivian Guerrero, and Bertha Leon Guerrero for Women in the Workforce; secretaries Mark Rabauliman and Edith DeLeon Guerrero for Women and the Economy; Margaret Aldan, Amber Mendiola, and Glenda George for Women and Health; and Cinta Kaipat, Brooke Nevitt, and Reina Camacho for Women and the Environment.

"We are very blessed to have these ladies, who in their own right are leaders in the workforce, but they're not who you hear about often," Che said.

On the second day, participants formed together an action plan with the goals that they want to accomplish for the year.

Most of their goals target women's health including mental health needs and violence and abuse. Training and education, particularly for the women who weren't able to earn their degree and workforce experience in their younger years were also discussed.

According to Che, this third

annual summit is the first time that they have representatives from Tinian and Rota. They have reached their maximum capacity for the summit which was 175.

"The participants are CWA clients, those we serve, and a very big mix, government employees, and also retirees," Che said.

Another unique factor for the summit is the inclusion of small booths for health and job needs.

"We try to incorporate a free mini health fair screening with CHCC and also a mini job fair. We have human resource representatives from Kanoa Resort, Kensington Hotel, Office of Personnel Management, Best Sunshine [International, Ltd.]," Che said.

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APRIL 10, 2016 FRIDAY	APRIL 13, 2016 WEDNESDAY	APRIL 15, 2016 FRIDAY	APRIL 16, 2016 SATURDAY	APRIL 17, 2016 WEDNESDAY	APRIL 20, 2016 WEDNESDAY
Sunday Brunch \$22	Buffet Lunch \$14	Buffet Lunch \$14	Seafood Night Reg. \$35 (Local: \$25)	Sunday Brunch \$22	Buffet Lunch \$14
APRIL 22, 2016 FRIDAY	APRIL 23, 2016 SATURDAY	APRIL 24, 2016 SUNDAY	APRIL 27, 2016 WEDNESDAY	APRIL 29, 2016 FRIDAY	APRIL 30, 2016 SATURDAY
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CONGRESS

From Page 1

2016, introduction of a bill addressing the Puerto Rico fiscal situation.”

“Congress is considering legislation that will provide an oversight board appointed by the President,” Sablan confirmed.

“But,” Sablan cautioned, “bill language to that effect has not been fully and finally drafted and is not expected to be introduced until April 12, 2016 at the earliest.”

Sablan also said there were no discussions about a Puerto Rico bailout since Congress—as far as is being discussed by leadership and by the Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico himself—will not provide any bailout legislation for Puerto Rico.

‘Infringing on self-government’

Independent sources with knowledge of the matter cast varying points of views on the effects of the potential legislation, saying on one end that the issue is still in its “early” stages and that the language of the bill is still in “flux,” but that on the other end, the proposed amendment could give the financial board the opportunity for the federal government to come in unilaterally and make changes—to the local tax code for example—without local government input.

Torres said he wrote a letter a couple of months ago on the Puerto Rico matter, refer-

ring to a Jan. 4 letter to Sablan that stated the CNMI’s position on whether they wanted federal bankruptcy law apply to the CNMI as part of proposed law to deal with the Puerto Rico debt crisis.

The January letter to Sablan notes that “if oversight and/or control measures contained in the legislative proposal referenced in your letter were also applicable to the CNMI,” the fundamental relationship between the CNMI and the U.S. as set out in the NMI Covenant would be “inappropriately weakened and destabilized.”

Torres indicated yesterday the issue has come around again, despite the CNMI’s position on the matter.

“But,” Torres said yesterday, “there seems like there is another avenue that still imposes the CNMI to be a part of this commission or board that looks at our state of economy here [where] we still fall under the commission.”

Torres said his conversation with Sablan was on “where does the CNMI, where do we want be,” or their position on a bill “that’s incorporated the Northern Mariana Islands.”

“...Again this is back to self-government, self-sovereignty, and this whole thing is becoming an issue that we will be taking a course of action in the next few days on whether to move forward and put it to question,” Torres said.

Asked to elaborate further, Torres said, “There is a bill that imposes [that] the CNMI be a part of this board or commission” that “either mandates

us or regulates us on how our economy” works.

“That is infringing on a lot of our self-determination,” Torres stressed. “We do have that under our Covenant, self-government. That’s what we are questioning now. And I am concerned.”

Torres is troubled with the “totality” of local to federal issues including the Marianas Trench Marine National Monument, which essentially turned Northern Island waters and islands to federal property, issues of immigration control, which Torres said was “taken away,” along with the CNMI’s rights to its submerged lands. This “totality,” Torres acknowledges also ties into this week’s federal court ruling that found the CNMI’s handgun ban unconstitutional despite the CNMI availing it for 30 to 40 years, and proposed military buildup on NMI islands.

“We are now having a bill before us to include us with Puerto Rico’s issues,” Torres said.

“I think we should be treated differently,” he added.

Larger questions

Torres’ comments yesterday tie into larger frustrations Capital Hill officials have been raising with the NMI Covenant, as some have expressed an eroding confidence in its ability to guarantee self-government or a sovereignty that many have thought the Covenant uniquely, among other territories, allowed for.

The proposed bill that Torres has contested also taps in larger questions on how much

U.S. Congress can unilaterally control or regulate the affairs of the CNMI, despite whatever the negotiations and the existence of the NMI Covenant supposedly guaranteed.

A case before the U.S. Supreme Court, also involving Puerto Rico, has signaled the U.S. government’s official position on the “full legislative power” and “plenary authority” that U.S. Congress has over the U.S. territories.

The case centers on whether the U.S. and local governments can charge an individual for the exact same crime, tying into the issue of overlapping sovereigns.

U.S. government lawyers add a footnote to clarify that territories mean “Puerto Rico, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and a number of small, uninhabited outlying islands.”

U.S. government lawyers argued, in a filing last December, that Congress’ plenary authority over federal territories includes the “authority to permit self-government, whereby local officials administer a territory’s internal affairs.”

“Congress has ‘full legislative power’ over the territories and ‘may at its discretion, intrust [sic] the territory that power to the legislative assembly of a Territory.’”

But when Congress does so, local officials exercise “power conferred” on them, “not any inherent sovereign power of the territory.”

“And ‘the extent of the power thus granted’ is up to Congress, ‘at all times subject

to such alterations as Congress may see fit to adopt’,” the U.S. government argues, citing previous case law.

The U.S. government also said a Presidential Task Force has assessed Puerto Rico’s political status and future, to which 2007 and 2011 task forces reached the same conclusion.

Because Puerto Rico is a “territory,” the U.S. government explains, Congress could “continue the current system indefinitely, but it also may revise or revoke it at any time.”

The federal government may relinquish United States sovereignty by granting independence or ceding the territory to another nation, or it may admit a territory as a state. But “the U.S. Constitution does not allow other options.”

On Wednesday, the *Atlantic*

COP’S

From Page 2

tioned to shoot.

Police detectives responded to the scene and searched for the gun’s shells and other evidence.

The handgun ownership issue has been a hot topic in the

reported on this issue, calling Puerto Rico the largest of the territories and the one subject to the bulk of legal debate as “comes up against the legal, governmental, and financial limits of its status.”

“Puerto Rico doesn’t have access to financial instruments available both to states and to sovereign nations,” said Carlos Iván Gorrín Peralta, a professor at the InterAmerican University of Puerto Rico and a territorial-law scholar, said in the article. “It is in essence in a straight jacket...The issue is whether Puerto Rico has some form, vestige, or mirage of sovereignty, despite the fact that the Supreme Court [of Puerto Rico] has felt that it is an unincorporated territory subject to the plenary powers of Congress.”

social media in the past few days after U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona declared as unconstitutional the CNMI’s gun control law that prohibits all residents from obtaining handguns for self-defense purposes.

Manglona’s order landed on headlines of local newspapers Thursday. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

RADICH

From Page 1

As to some CNMI residents’ comment on social media, expressing their disappointment with the ruling and blaming the Radich couple, the lawyer said he has no comment as “that’s beyond what’s appropriate.”

Guidotti added that he advised his clients not to speak to the media about the issue.

Asked for comment about Manglona’s ruling, Attorney General Edward Manibusan said yesterday that for over 40 years, the Commonwealth Weapons Act has protected the people of the CNMI for gun violence.

Manibusan said in light of Manglona’s decision in Radich lawsuit, his office will continue to ensure the safety and security of the people of the Commonwealth.

The AG said they have been working with Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres and the Legislature in crafting legislation on the use and possession of firearms consistent with the U.S. Supreme Court’s decision in Heller.

“That legislation with a section by section analysis is now before the Legislature for its consideration and action,” Manibusan said.

In the District of Columbia v. Heller case, the U.S. Supreme Court held that the operative clause of the Second Amendment—“the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed”—guarantees “the individual right to

possess and carry weapons in case of confrontation.”

Applying that individual right, the Supreme Court struck down a District of Columbia ban on the “possession of usable handguns in the home.”

Manglona has declared unconstitutional the CNMI gun’s control law that prohibits all residents from obtaining handguns for self-defense purposes.

Manglona ruled that the handgun and handgun ammunition and their import ban contained in the provisions of the CNMI Weapons Control Act are declared unconstitutional and in violation of the Covenant that incorporated the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Manglona issued the ruling favorable to the Radich couple, who have filed a lawsuit against then-Department of Public Safety commissioner James C. DeLeon Guerrero and Department of Finance Secretary Larrisa Larson, that challenges the constitutionality of the CNMI Weapons Control Act that prohibits all residents from obtaining handguns for self-defense purposes.

According to the complaint, in 2010, while Mr. Radich was away and his wife, Li-Rong, was at home alone on Saipan, their house was invaded.

Li-Rong was attacked and beaten up resulting in serious injuries. She screamed out for help, prompting the invader to leave.

The couple applied for weapons permit in July 2013. No permit has been granted.

HANDGUN

From Page 1

galizing handguns is “changing the whole CNMI.”

“This is changing the whole CNMI, our protection, our lives,” Torres said, “It has changed the way we have enjoyed the freedom and the luxury of not having handguns.”

Torres said additional funding would be needed for the Department of Public Safety.

“Now we have to appropriate more funding for DPS, now we need to have vehicles bulletproof, now we need to get all the DPS officers get bulletproof vests as well as the elected officials and judges and so forth, now we need to get more funding for that protection. Our office will need security,” Torres said.

The sentiment is echoed by the Commonwealth Ports Authority in terms of ensuring security in airports and ports.

“For the most part, we all respect the U.S. Constitution and within that, the Right to Bear Arms, however, the CNMI has had the privilege in maintaining a controlled gun environment. This ruling is a game changer for my

LEO’s (Law Enforcement Officers) and all the LEO’s in the CNMI for that matter,” CPA executive director MaryAnn Lizama said.

She added that changes in security measures will be needed.

“I rely on my LEO’s to protect our airport and seaport communities and having this ruling take effect, not only do our boys have to stand up and tighten security but changes in our security measures must be done,” Lizama said.

For tourism, Marianas Visitors Authority board chair Marian Aldan-Pierce said that “while we do not believe the ability to own or carry a handgun in the NMI would greatly affect tourism, a significant increase in crime would.”

“As we all know, safety is a top priority for tourists when they choose a destination to travel to,” Aldan said, adding that the board is also yet to have the opportunity to sit and discuss the ruling.

“We can only wait to see the impact of the court’s ruling. Unfortunately we cannot offend the U.S. Constitution. I applaud the administration and the Legislature for quickly reacting to the ruling with legislation to

restrict access to handguns and impose penalties, financial, and jail time,” she added.

Aldan-Pierce said she is “sure they will do all they can to continue to ensure the safety of all CNMI residents and our visitors.”

Guns in other islands

Guam’s legislative secretary, Sen. Tina Muña-Barnes, shares that in Guam, they haven’t had a problem with guns as they have strict guidelines for ownership.

“For Guam, we have not had a problem. We follow strict guidelines,” Muña-Barnes said, “I do know that the right to bear arms exist today and I do know that there is a process and the guidelines that we follow, a lot of them mirror that from the United States.”

“Sen. Tony Ada has been the champion with the right to bear arms and he has had legislations that would continue to safeguard gun usage in Guam but not restricted to the fact that you have to go through hoops and hurdles to get a license,” she added.

Muña-Barnes said that due to the very strict guidelines, they have not seen any major problems so far.

Visiting Syamisen group entertains *man'amko*

The Tsuagru Syamisen band entertained the *man'amko* with traditional Japanese songs yesterday at the Office on Aging Center in China Town. The group just came from a brief ceremony at Banzai Cliff before heading to the Aging Center.

The group is on Saipan for a one-night concert as part of Himawari's 10th anniversary celebration. The *man'amko* gave the members of the band necklaces made from local beads as a show of thanks.

The syamisen, shamisen, or samisen is a Japanese three-stringed instrument plucked by a plectrum called a bachi. The first string shows the powerfulness of the sound, the second kindness, and the third expresses the feelings of the music conveyed to the audience.

Group leader Saratsu Risu, who has been playing the syamisen for more than 30 years, said that this was their first time to travel to Saipan. The members all came from Gifu Prefecture in central Japan.

"We only have been playing as a group for four years and most of us this our first time to visit Saipan. We love playing and promoting traditional Japanese music," said Risu. "We are happy to see the *man'amko* and get the chance to perform traditional Japanese music in front of them."

Some *man'amko* knew most of the songs played by the group and they joined in by either humming or singing with them, which surprised and delighted the visitors.

Their last performance was a dance usually performed during the Gifu festival in summer. They taught some *man'amko* the easy steps and everyone had a great time dancing.

Saipan Senior Citizens president Joaquina Mendiola thanked the group for taking the time to visit them at the Man'amko Center.

"We really appreciated that you traveled this far from Japan to Saipan just to perform and be with us. We hope you enjoy your stay here on our beautiful island and have a safe trip back to Japan," Mendiola said.

Tsuagru Syamisen band's one-night concert last night was organized with the cooperation of the Marianas Visitors Authority and the Japanese Students Society of the Northern Marianas. (Jon Perez)

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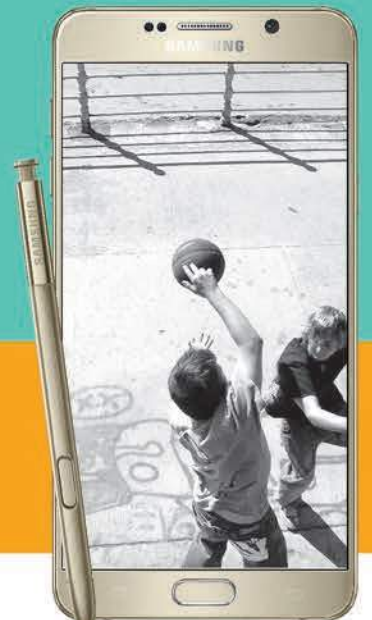
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By PHIL YORIO

SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The use of energy storage in various forms has been around most of our human existence in one form or another, one example going back to the 1300s is the use of stored or dammed waterways to control watermills for use in grain processing's and irrigation. Energy storage is used so we can control the supply and demand of energy and now the battery storage systems in the next two years will become mainstream and change the renewable energy industry forever.

Japan, Germany, the United States, and China have been sinking millions of dollars into this exciting technology over the last three years and it seems that it will be finally paying off. The problem with this technology in the past was the density of storage available and the price points, which

Battery storage—get ready it's here!

were very cost prohibitive to install on renewable energy systems. But get very excited because now this exciting technology is not only affordable but makes sense to add to renewable energy systems to help save you a lot of money in the years to come, and to be that added protection in power outages and any type of prolonged exposure from downed utilities due to typhoons.

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now able to deliver to the renewable energy industry what I believe to be the missing link needed to complete our need for energy in-

dependence from fossil fuel. This new and exciting technology will soon be mainstream and it could not come at a better time.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Phil Yorio is the general manager of Micronesia Renewable Energy, Inc.-CNMI.



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ON MOTION TO DECLARE CNMI 2016 BUDGET UNCONSTITUTIONAL

OAG wants Judge Camacho prohibited from hearing issue

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Office of the Attorney General filed yesterday a petition, asking the CNMI Supreme Court to prohibit Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho from proceeding with a hearing on a motion to declare the 2016 Budget Act unconstitutional.

Assistant attorney general David Lochabay, counsel for the CNMI government, asserted that Camacho should

be prohibited from continuing with the case because the proceedings have become illegal and in excess of the trial court's jurisdiction.

Lochabay presented two issues before the Supreme Court.

Lochabay said Camacho's order directing plaintiffs Jotonia B. Aguon, Timothy Cruz, and Gorjonny Camacho, to file a standalone motion to declare the Commonwealth's 2016 budget unconstitutional is clearly erroneous.

Second, the government

counsel said, any proceedings in this case other than those specifically authorized by the statute (providing for orders in aid of judgment and hearings) exceed the trial court's jurisdiction in this proceeding and are clearly erroneous.

Aguon and Cruz are holding a \$35,000 judgment against the government in connection with their lawsuit over the death of their child.



Camacho

Camacho is holding a \$10,000 judgment against the government in connection with his medical malpractice lawsuit.

Camacho went to CHC for an appendectomy, but the surgeon instead allegedly used permanent stitches instead of dissolving stitches.

As a result, a skin nodule developed on the site of the surgery, causing him pain

and forcing him to undergo a second surgery to remove the skin nodule and remove his stitches.

Attorney Michael Dotts is counsel for Aguon, Cruz, and Camacho in the two separate cases. The court consolidated the two cases.

To collect payment of the two judgments that were entered in 2013, Dotts filed motions for orders in aid of judgment. Dotts also asked the Superior Court to declare the 2016 Budget Act unconstitutional.

Camacho set an evidentiary hearing for May 9 to 11, 2016.

Dotts argued, among other things, that the Budget Act of 2016 is unconstitutionally unbalanced under the CNMI Constitution because it did not provide for the payment of judgments in a reasonable amount.

In OAG's opposition file recently in the Superior Court, Lochabay said the trial court has no jurisdiction to hear the motion as the plaintiffs have no standing to assert the claims they made.

Lochabay said plaintiffs have no property right to payment of their judgments at any particular time, including through the 2016 Budget.

Lochabay also argued that plaintiffs specially requested judgments, which require legislative appropriations for payment instead of settlements, which may be paid without legislative appropriations.

In the government's petition for prohibition filed yesterday in the CNMI Supreme Court, Lochabay said Camacho ex-

ceeded the court's jurisdiction by ordering a hearing on whether the government's current budget should be held unconstitutional.

Lochabay said Camacho issued an order to plaintiffs to file a standalone motion to declare the 2016 budget unconstitutional because he obviously felt that the court did not have the power to make such a finding under the statute.

"There is no other statutory source that would provide jurisdiction for the trial court to make such a finding," he pointed out.

Lochabay said the only other source for such a power would seem to be the inherent powers doctrine.

Lochabay noted that even if the inherent powers doctrine was applicable it would not extend to authorizing a declaration that the 2016 budget is unconstitutional under the facts of this case.

He said there is no imaginable relationship between assisting plaintiffs in collecting their judgments and declaring the budget unconstitutional.

Lochabay said the government is being subjected to an illegal proceeding.

He said there is no statutory or common law basis for a post-judgment proceeding in a particular case to declare a law unconstitutional.

In addition, Lochabay said, a declaration that the 2016 budget is unconstitutional would result in a shutdown of all non-essential government services, to say nothing of the financial chaos that would result.

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Cross-dresser who robbed Star Poker gets 5 years in prison

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho Wednesday slapped a five-year imprisonment sentence against Eric Nick Narruhn, a repeat offender who disguised himself as a woman by wear-

ing a wig and putting on a makeup in robbing Star Poker in Chalan Lau Lau.

"The people of the CNMI deserve a safe community and the people cry out for justice against the epidemic of thefts, burglaries, and robberies," Camacho said.

Camacho ordered the

29-year-old Narruhn to serve the five years in prison day to day without the possibility of parole and work or weekend release.

The defendant was given credit of two years of time served.

As Narruhn is a citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia, the judge directed the clerk of court to provide the U.S. Department of Homeland Security-Immigration and Customs Enforcement a copy of the sentencing order.

The Office of the Attorney General dismissed the armed robbery and disturbing the peace charges and amended the information to charge the defendant only with theft.

Narruhn pleaded guilty to theft.

Assistant attorney general

Chester Hinds, counsel for the government, recommended a sentence of the maximum of five years and other conditions.

Assistant public defender Matthew Meyer, counsel for Narruhn, recommended a sentence of two years imprisonment with credit for two years of time served.

Camacho said Narruhn, a repeat offender, requires a much longer sentence to ensure that he fully understands his actions and is deterred from committing any future crimes.

Camacho said defendant's criminal acts have escalated from assault and battery, in which he pleaded guilty to disturbing the peace, to armed robbery, in which he pleaded guilty to theft.

The judge said in his prior case, Narruhn received a lenient

sentence—11 days of jail time.

"Defendant failed to learn from his prior case, and instead has escalated the seriousness of his criminal activities," he said.

Police Detective Catherine B. Pangelinan stated in her report that it was Narruhn's wife, Realiza, who then worked as

a cashier at Star Poker, who identified her husband on the surveillance camera's footage of the robbery that occurred on Jan. 27, 2015.

The cashier told police that a man wearing a wig and with makeup robbed the establishment of \$541 from the cashier's box.

MCS, MHS Class of '76 to jointly hold reunion

The Mt. Carmel and the Marianas High School Class of 1976 will be celebrating their 40th Class Reunion the weekend of June 3, 2016. All classmates of 1976, whether you graduate at MCS or MHS in 1976 or not, but attended elementary, junior, or senior high school at either school is invited to attend this reunion. The following activities for the weekend are as follows:

Friday, June 3, 2016

(for all those that could attend)

12noon Lunch at Marianas Resort & Spa

Tour around the Island on the Chicken Bus after lunch

Saturday, June 4, 2016

6pm Reunion Dinner at Pacific Islands Club

Sunday, June 5, 2016

■ 9am Eucharistic Celebration at Mt. Carmel Cathedral (Presider: Father James Balajadia)

■ 11am Family Picnic at the Beach

(Beach behind the Aquarius Beach Tower Hotel)

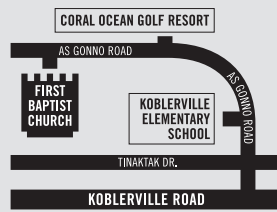
Cost is \$100 per person/\$200 couple fee. It will cover all the three days of activities. Margaret and Nenita will collect fees for MHS and Pres, Ena, Florence, and Vivian Taitano will collect for MCS.

For additional information, you may check our MCS/MHS Class of 1976 Facebook page or email Pres Delacruz at presdelacruz@gmail.com, Nenita San Nicolas at nita.fuji@pticom.com, Ena Villagomez at enapvilagomez@gmail.com, Margaret Aldan at mt.aldan@yahoo.com, Florence Sablan at fkilili@yahoo.com, and Vivian Taitano at vivian.taitano@picsaipan.com. For MCS alumnae living abroad, please email Tilde Gozrulak at tildegoszrulak@yahoo.com. (PR)

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Opinion

Hafa Adai! Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Palmyra's return: Syria succeeds in taking back the ancient city

The Syrian army's retaking of the desert crossroads city of Palmyra is significant for several reasons.

Most people know Palmyra as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, a place of magnificent ruins dating back to the second millennium B.C. The Islamic State group seized it in May 2015, destroying some monuments and selling off pieces of others.

While it has lost Palmyra, the Islamic State appears to be retreating elsewhere as well. Other territory occupied by the extremists in eastern Syria, including the IS de facto capital Raqqa, may be subject to reconquest by government forces, backed by Russian firepower and soldiers from Iran, Iraq, Lebanese Hezbollah and Afghanistan.

Palmyra has changed hands often, having been occupied by forces of different nations and empires, including Arabs, Romans, Turks and the French. Each invader has built and destroyed, frequently focusing on the places of worship of prior conquerors. Last year IS destroyed the city's Temple of Bel, dating from 32 A.D.

Some preservationists who have looked at the liberated Palmyra say the damage by the Islamic State was not as bad as they had feared. With money, time and a lot of work, much can be reconstructed.

For the United States there are two messages in the recapture of Palmyra. One is that Syrian President Bashar Assad and his regime were not as vulnerable as they appeared in 2012 during Syria's version of the Arab Spring. Another message is that Russia, as a military power and an ally of its friends, appears to be back. It is largely responsible for the rebirth of Assad's Syria, although it is unlikely that Syria's previous borders will be restored.

Seeing the Islamic State on its heels is a positive development. The restoration of stability to some places in Syria is also progress.

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April Fools on Autism Month

My son turns 21 this month. He and her sister three years older were diagnosed with Autism that cost me a marriage. But he is legally an adult this month, which tells me how much I missed in the interim.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres set the signing of the proclamation of Autism month today, then moved it to yesterday, so though setting a Grade 1 classroom for WSR to decongest the overloaded four classes by the end of this assessment period, I took the time to be at the proclamation having been one of the originals when the autism society still gathered informally at a Resource Center.

I was there early at 9am; was informed that the signing was April 1 so I asked the front desk to check again. Sure enough, it was yesterday in the books at 10:30am, so since I was early, I went back to the office to sort out the maps I needed to bring to C-2 WSR and moseyed back to Capitol Hill at 10:15. I was told that I missed it by 20 minutes.

Being a strong proponent of coconut time (when it is ripe, it will fall), I shrugged my shoulders and went back to school.

Today is April Fools' Day. Larry Bird of the Indiana Pacers, former player for the Boston Celtics, does not fool himself when he looks at the statistics and realizes that tall guys do not live long. Ailing from a heart murmur, the 59-year old backboard "giant" figures he has 16 years before his heart gives out. That's about my pace.

My adult male neighbor gingerly walked his way to his room at 2am after a Friday night bout with the boys. He was up and about the following day bewailing the numerous aphids on his pepper plant, slightly nursing a hangover, and it would have been the perfect timing to say something smart, but I remembered the Pinoy saying: *Pilawin mo na yong lasing, huwag lang yong bagong gising* (say anything to a drunk but be careful on the newly awake).

Today allows for playing harmless jokes on friends and foes. This includes the Hilaria Roman festival on vernal equinox in honor of goddess Cybele. There is the festival of colors, or the festival of love, called Holi in India, also related to the vernal equinox when the full moon is on.

The Church and the Reformers condemned the Feast of Fools for excesses in orgies but it was a reminder to clergy not to take themselves too seriously. Remnants of it show up as recent as Victor Hugo in the Hunchback of Notre Dame (1831) in which the image of the Pope of Fools is bestowed on the hunchback Quasimodo.

Pinoys joke when under stress. Benigno Aquino, Jr. gunned down on the plane stairs at MIA on his arrival from Taiwan had Manila folks lit tires in the middle of the street, riled all kinds of substantive and corny jokes, replaced the characters with Ferdie and Meldie. Laughter came along with the tears. That was a natural "April Fool's Day" in August.

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.

President Marcos declared that he would call a "snap" election pitting him against Ninoy Aquino's widow Cory. The published results were rigged; Juan Ponce Enrile of Defense and Assistant Chief of Staff Fidel Ramos withdrew their support of the Marcos regime. Cardinal Sin urged the public to protect them at Camp Aguinaldo and the People's Power of EDSA occurred. Ferdie and Meldie hightailed it to Hawaii; Cory was sworn-in to the Presidency by SC Justice Teehankee.

Marcos was too ill to understand that he was headed for Hawaii (pronounced "hah-wai-ee") when he left Malacañang on a helicopter; he thought he was going to his home to Paoay (pronounced, "pah wai"), up north in Ilocos Norte. Many Filipinos observed Gotcha April Fools' Day that year.

April Fools' Day is on us when we take promoting the cause of democracy beyond its being a handy metaphor that we use even on Saipan over the intrusive tactics of the casino industry in spite of two popular votes against it. Makati business was not spontaneous at EDSA; they protested the restricted ability to maneuver freely. The U.S. Embassy was "uninvolved," obviously a "go ahead" signal.

Madame Suharto was referred to as Madame Fifteen Percent when she exceeded the tolerated 10 percent to the slush fund. Pea Eye's charge was at thirty-five but business continued to thrive as only a portion of the rich mineral resource of precious metals was mined. The nation could sustain exploitation since the tropical weather outside the Metro centers supported self-sustenance.

April is autism month, no laughing matter. In 1995, I paid attention to Autism when my 4-year old was suspected of being one; incidence was one out of more than 1,000. By 2002 in Melbourne, it was one out of 400. A year ago, it was one out of less than a 100. Today, one out of 45 though Atlanta goes for 68.

Still, not a joke, but life allows us to laugh. An autistic boy above my dwelling screams often, a language common among the disorder. I told his Mom to heed those times he laughs, encourage whatever behavioral pattern he does at the time.

Autism month. My boy neighbor doesn't care, but I giggle when he does!

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Restoring citizen's rights

Federal District Court Judge Ramona Manglona ruled local handgun law unconstitutional for violating the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. The provision grants citizens the "right to bear arms...in self-defense."

The Second Amendment is rather broad and only addresses rights and self-defense. It didn't define type of weaponry that may be adequate for personal and family protection. Though the judge has a rather difficult social responsibility, I doubt though that she has the authority to define which weapon is suitable or otherwise.

The Legislature may try its hands regulating handgun ownership but must equally ensure it doesn't become a vehicle to carry out the law just declared unconstitutional.

I'm not going to deny anyone his rights to bear arms though I still dread serious or fatal accidental injuries. Even experts get into this mess. I came close to one and the very reason I voluntarily gave it up, including my high-powered rifles. I'm fine with plans to buy a .223 or .22 magnum caliber rifle sufficient for my protection.

Appalling that it took a decision to realize that the NMI doesn't have any laws regulating handguns. Legislators were caught with dropped jaws struggling to understand what's "con-

stitutional." Any argument about culture is fluid and uselessly irrelevant. It's about a citizen's rights to bear arms for self-defense purposes. Gee! This shallow political calisthenics even fails the laugh test!

Around the Region: All Nippon Airways (ANA) has ordered three A380 aircrafts, each seats 525 passengers, to take advantage of competition hauling passengers to the State of Aloha, according to a recent news item in the *Japan Times*.

"ANA is keen to take advantage of the expansion of Tokyo's Haneda airport for international flights. And in Japan, outbound flights means going to Hawaii." Moreover, "flights for all airlines between Japanese airports and Hawaii are running at 80-90 percent capacity. By using the A380, ANA can substantially increase the number of people it carries without increasing the number of flights."

Obviously, the NMI and Guam aren't in this equation. But the Aloha State offers unmatched services in hospitality. Even I find trips to Hawaii rewarding as though I'm coming home once more. As soon as the door opens the trade winds carry my stressful load elsewhere and I'm whole once more.

The \$400K Question: The appropriation of public funds

Giddyup Go

I'm always a sucker for holidays. And even though April Fool's day is probably not regarded as a real holiday, I am still celebrating its arrival. I'm happy to see April arrive because I'm happy to see March go. March was dull and bothersome. All I did was tend picky little administrative chores. Nobody gives you points for this stuff. It has made me restless.

The only way to shake these blahs is to take a road trip. I'm going to spend April planning one out. Then I'm going to gas up, mount up and giddyup go.

It's in my American blood. It's a true fact that on the open highway at 70 mph, with Red Sovine playing on the stereo, a bag of beef jerky perched near the gear shifter, and the dim hum of rubber rolling on concrete, you can outrun 95 percent of the world's problems.

Of course, this means you're probably hurling head-first into the other 5 percent, but, hey, nothing's perfect.

Not that I've got any perfection to offer. So before we get rolling, I have to heed a holdover from March 25. That's when, in my column, "An ear for language," I mentioned a new product line from Pimsleur, the language learning company. The new product is called the "Unlimited" line. Helpful guy that I am, I misidentified it as the "Ultimate" line. Glad to be of service.

Anyway, road trips. Regular-grade gasoline in Saipan is about \$3.49 a gallon now, a lot lower than it used to be, and the mainland average is about \$2.05 now. That latter figure is down by about 20 percent from a year ago. I don't remember the price trends in the year before that, but I know that I'm one of many people who have been in road trip mode for a couple of years now.

Beyond the cheap gas factor, some of this enthusiasm must be rooted in the gray hair factor.

For one thing, some of us remember when gas prices were high, and speed limits, low. By contrast, when you see 80 mph limits in some places and it doesn't even cost \$50 to fill your tank, it feels like a true windfall. Might as well get going while the getting is good, the thinking goes, since, like anything else in transportation, any surprises are apt to be bad ones.

A second reason is that the love affair with cars, and with driving, might be more old school than new practice. When I was young it was common for us to work on cars, for the simple reason that it never occurred to us not to work on cars. We were either wrenching on them or driving in them.

We had gas in our blood back then, and probably in the literal sense, since our hands were often saturated in gasoline and, for that matter, carburetor cleaner, brake cleaner, engine de-greaser, wheel bearing grease, gear oil and various other solvents

By ED STEPHENS

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



and goo. For all I know, they'll have to bury me in a hazardous waste site, after a chemical company bids \$15 so it can recycle my spleen.

By contrast, what with the Web and smartphones and all that stuff, the younger set might have different priorities than driving from Portland to Pensacola just to check out the beaches and barbecue. Well, I'm sure that some like to ramble, but I doubt it's as common as it used to be.

By contrast, back in the old-school realm, I know a dozen or so people who, upon retirement, decided to road trip permanently. Some are amateur astronomers who have a migratory cycle based around seasons and weather. The others are folks who'd simply rather keep moving than sit still.

Meanwhile, I've known a handful of pilots who chucked the flying life and took to the road as truck drivers. Some became owner-operators. In two cases, they're working as husband-and-wife driving teams. I could never really figure out if this is lucrative or not. The minute somebody tells me that their cash flow is sweet, something comes along to sour the equation. Well, again, that's transportation for you, especially on the professional end of things.

For all the homogenization of modern life into one bland, angst-ridden grayness, America is still vast and varied, with a lot of regional variations. Appreciating such things is not exclusively an American pastime. I know a Chinese professor who is a connoisseur of American road trips, especially in the old West where there are dusty old ghost towns and forgotten old gold mines.

I've met bikers from Poland who booked trips to the U.S. so they could ride, en masse, on rented Harley-Davidson motorcycles.

And truck stops used to be just for trucks, but they're more family friendly now. They're often stopover points, with gift shops, for busses hauling package tourists from distant lands. At this rate of gentrification, truck stops will soon be offering SAT preparation and investment consulting.

Anyway, now that I've divested my calendar of March's gloom, it's time for some fun. A road trip seems like an idea with ultimate potential. Oops, I mean unlimited potential. Whatever.

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



is a constitutional mandate. He feels I've been vindicated by the subsequent appropriation of funds for the Settlement Fund. The constitution specifically talks about "legislative appropriation." It never granted legislative delegations such authority.

Therefore, the \$400,000 given by the Rota Legislative Delegation to the family-owned shipping firm of Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog must be returned forthwith! Obviously, Hocog has become a detractor himself by demonstrating that he's not conversant with pertinent constitutional provision mandating legislative appropriation of public funds. And you're now second in command? Your ignorance has turned fodder for students in civics courses throughout high schools here!

How about some semblance of integrity? You can start by proving divestiture in the family-shipping firm. Or is this why you're the spokesperson? Finally, please publish your tariff rates so Rota consumers could find out how much you charge per 20-40-foot container.

Development Plans: The disoriented way with which the NMI deals with planned projects is further exacerbated by the lack of a set of administration plans how it wishes to dispose of the issue in organized fashion. As such, it engages in the scheme of "hits and misses" collecting more of the latter as trophies to boast about while our livelihood deteriorates.

If anything, any plan now in the incubation stage must begin looking for private lands for its purpose. No more public land leases! Nah! In fact, the indigenous landowners must actively participate in any proposed land use plan. Once and for all let's collectively dispose of our land the way we see fit.

The KUMHO and Kan Pacific experiences are more than sufficient lessons that illustrated how the landowners (indigenous people) were screwed royally too. They secure huge tax breaks, fail to sink in real time investment, sell the development making millions of dollars then leave! No Mas!

Hypocrisy: Interesting how some public officials have turned hypocrisy into an art. Senators Arnold Palacios and Sixto Igisomar have started spouting about the need for basic infrastructure to a group of government agencies.

Appalling the grand hypocrisy Palacios displays after ensuring that BSI is handed real time cronyism with its permits. Why can't Palacios also walk the papers of other businesses needing permits from the same agencies? Are there reasons why you would shy from doing the same, sir?

Rise of Localism: The rise in sentiment of localism—claims of indigenous interests and rights—has bloomed from one end of the archipelago to the other. It includes the misguided political status talks, retardant emplacement of basic infrastructure, revival of local tradition including fabricated Chamorro chant, among others.


The disjointed message is clear including the absence of a vehicle to carry through pronouncements about indigenous interests and rights. It sounds hip but completely misplaced what with each group conducting its own stationary agenda. Last I checked there's nothing up that alley!

We promote the use of the vernacular unaware that 90 percent of households among Chamorro families use English from dawn to dusk. Adding insult to injury, we move the teaching of the language to school where it is taught as a second language. PSS has done an exemplary job. It's the parents that have failed their own children on this score!

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian


TODAY



Partly cloudy with isolated light showers.
East winds 10 to 15 mph.

▲88° ▼76°


SATURDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated light showers.

▲88° ▼76°


SUNDAY



Partly cloudy with isolated light showers.

▲87° ▼75°


MONDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated light showers.

▲87° ▼75°

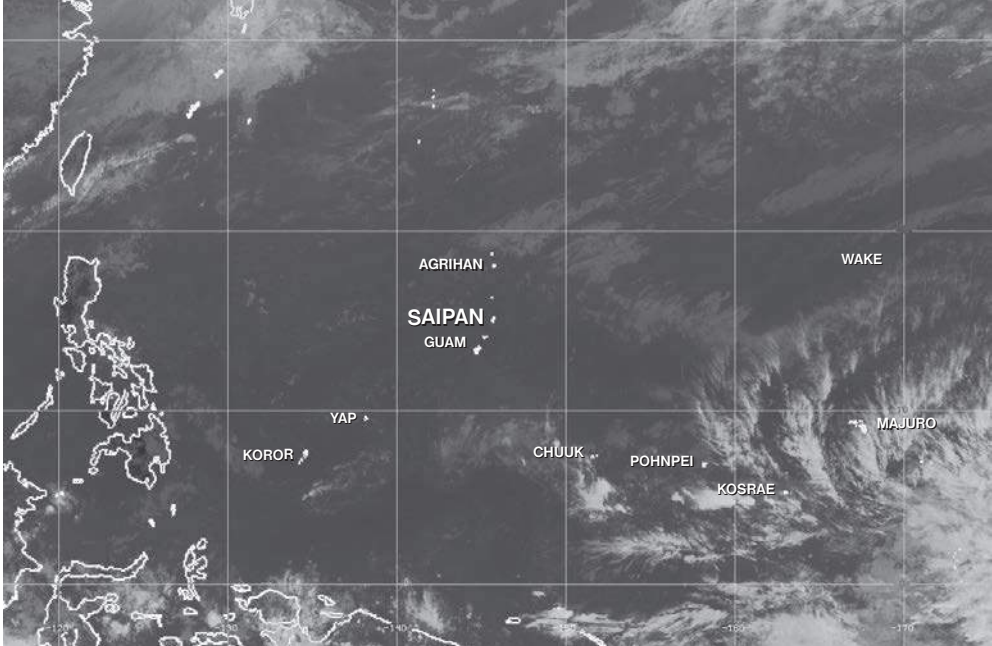
TUESDAY



Mostly cloudy with isolated light showers.

▲86° ▼75°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



A satellite image of the Western North Pacific region. The image shows cloud patterns over the ocean, with several islands labeled: AGRIHAN, SAIPAN, GUAM, YAP, KOROR, CHUUK, POHNPEI, KOSRAE, MAJURO, and WAKE. The map includes a grid with longitude markings from -120 to -170 and latitude markings from 0 to 25N.


PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 2016
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Low level convergence is producing scattered light showers across and east of the far northern CNMI within an area bounded by a line from 23N153E to 17N153E to 19N144E back to 23N153E. Trade-wind convergence is generating widely-scattered showers and a few thunderstorms across eastern Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae states between 6N and 9N from 142E to 150E, and between 3N and 9N from 150E to 164E. A trade-wind disturbance is triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms south of Majuro between the equator and 7N from 169E to 180. A shear line heads west through the date line at 13N to end near 15N153E. Scattered light showers are seen along and up to 150 miles north of this boundary. A cold front extends west-southwestward through 25N178E to 20N161E. Cloudiness and patchy showers are found along and up to 150 miles north of this front.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia			
Guam And Rota	Mostly Sunny	▲ 87	▼ 70
Palau	Showers	▲ 89	▼ 73
Yap	Showers	▲ 91	▼ 75
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	▲ 87	▼ 78
Pohnpei	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 88	▼ 75
Kosrae	Partly Cloudy	▲ 84	▼ 75
Majuro	Showers	▲ 84	▼ 73

Around the Globe			
Auckland	Rain	▲ 73	▼ 55
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 74	▼ 45
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 70	▼ 66
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 81	▼ 60
London	Partly Cloudy	▲ 58	▼ 36
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 67	▼ 45
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲ 93	▼ 72
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲ 82	▼ 52
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲ 85	▼ 69
New York	Thunderstorms	▲ 73	▼ 29
Osaka	Rain	▲ 62	▼ 37
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 58	▼ 40
Pusan	Sunny	▲ 67	▼ 45
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲ 75	▼ 41
Salem	Sunny	▲ 59	▼ 45
San Francisco	Fog	▲ 62	▼ 48
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲ 74	▼ 27
Tokyo	Cloudy	▲ 63	▼ 36
Washington, DC	Thunderstorms	▲ 82	▼ 40



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
2:46 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
8:08 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
12:58 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet
8:33 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.1 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset		
Today	6:12 AM	6:30 PM
Saturday	6:11 AM	6:30 PM
Sunday	6:10 AM	6:30 PM
Monday	6:10 AM	6:30 PM
Tuesday	6:10 AM	6:30 PM

Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	12:47 AM	12:30 PM
Saturday	1:37 AM	1:24 PM
Sunday	2:27 AM	2:20 PM
Monday	3:17 AM	3:18 PM
Tuesday	4:07 AM	4:18 AM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MARCH 1, 2016														
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS								
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)						GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN								
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily			UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily					
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily			UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily					
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota			UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7					
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6			UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota					
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily			UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily					
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily			UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily					
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)						GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)								
UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7			UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6					
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)						ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN								
UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7			UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6					
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN								
DL297	4:20pm	7:10pm	Daily			DL298	10:35am	3:10pm	Daily					
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN								
OZ626	2:10am	6:00am	1			7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily					
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7					
OZ628	3:50am	7:40am	Daily			OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6					
7C3403	4:35am	8:30am	Daily			OZ627	9:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily					
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily			7C3404	10:10pm	3:30am+1	Daily					
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN								
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7			OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6					
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN								
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7			3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7					
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN								
MU764	1:30am	5:30am	3, 5, 7			MU763	4:30pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6					
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)						GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN								
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6			3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5					
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN								
OZ626/701	2:10am	11:15am	1 via ICN			UA190/2927	9:55am	5:35pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM					
OZ626/701	2:50am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			UA190/2929	9:55am	9:20pm	2, 6, 7 via GUM					
UA2924/191	4:15am	9:00am	3, 6 via GUM			UA190/2927	10:00am	5:35pm	3 via GUM					
UA2924/PR111	4:15am	9:20am	Daily via GUM			UA190/2929	10:00am	9:20pm	3 via GUM					
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN					
UA2922/183	8:40am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			OZ702/625	12:30pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN					
UA2922/193	8:40am	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR			OZ702/627	12:30pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN					
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:30pm	5 via Rota-GUM			PR110/UA2925	10:05pm	8:05am+1	Daily via GUM					
UA2921/183	1:30pm	9:50pm	1, 4, 7 via Rota-GUM			UA192/2925	10:20pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota					
UA2921/193	1:30pm	11:10pm	5 via Rota-GUM			UA192/2920	10:20pm	1:50pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota					
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:30pm	2 via GUM			UA192/2927	10:20pm	5:35pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota					
UA2920/183	2:20pm	9:50pm	3, 6 via GUM			UA192/2929	10:20pm	9:20pm+1	2, 5 via GUM-Rota					
UA2920/193	2:20pm	11:10pm	2 via GUM-ROR			UA184/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM					
UA2928/183	6:05pm	9:30pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM					
UA2928/183	6:05pm	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			UA184/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1 via GUM-Rota					
UA2928/193	6:05pm	11:10pm	2, 5 via GUM			UA184/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM					
UA2926/191	9:50pm	7:20am+1	1, 6 via GUM			UA184/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM					
UA2926/191	9:50pm	9:00am+1	3, 6 via GUM			UA184/2925	11:59pm	8:05am+1	2, 5 via GUM					
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)						HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN								
OZ626/721	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN					
OZ626/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/625	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN					
OZ628/721	3:50am	12:50am	Daily via ICN			OZ724/627	2:20pm	2:50am+1	Daily via ICN					
UA2922/159	8:40am	10:35pm	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM			UA116/2925	10:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM					
UA2921/159	1:30pm	10:35pm	1, 5 via Rota-GUM			UA116/2921	10:55pm	1:00pm+1	3, 6 via GUM					
UA2920/159	2:20pm	10:35pm	3, 6 via GUM			UA116/2920	10:55pm	1:50pm+1	1, 5 via GUM-Rota					
						UA116/2927	10:55pm	5:35pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM					
						UA116/2929	10:55pm	9:20pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM					

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; 7C: Jeju AirETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.								
TINIAN TO SAIPAN			SAIPAN TO TINIAN			SAIPAN TO ROTA		
DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
6:30AM	6:45AM	Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily	7:45AM	8:15AM	Mon, Tues, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat
			8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily			
			9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily			

Torres, Hocog donate watermelons to *man'amko*

The Office of the Aging received locally produced watermelons Wednesdays as gifts from Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog, who personally planted and took care of the fruits.

Torres and Hocog, who worked to make sure the seeds they planted would bear fruit, promised the *man'amko* that they would get the first batch of watermelons that they would harvest.

"This is part of our continued efforts in promoting to eat healthy and to support farmers

with locally grown produce," said Torres.

He added that providing the needs of the *man'amko* center is one of the administration's priorities. "We want to make sure the *man'amko* center is conducive to everyone."

Hocog said he and Torres looked after the watermelons from planting the seeds, watering it, putting fertilizer, and pulling out the weeds to harvesting. He added that it was a relaxing activity and it has become a sort of exercise for them.

"Farming every weekend

was an excellent stress reliever for us. I was surprised to learn that the governor knows how to operate a tractor. He's a good tractor operator," Hocog said with a laugh.

Office of the Aging director Walter Manglona said they too started with their own small farm where the *man'amko* planted okra, onions, and tomatoes in a small lot adjacent to the Aging Center in China Town.

The watermelons, which weigh more than 5 lbs each, were delivered before lunch

was served to close to 50 elderly who were at the Aging Center.

"Now you will enjoy des-

sert after lunch," said Manglona. (Jon Perez)



JON PEREZ

Man'amko Queen Minerva Maghanoy, left, and King Diego Pua, second left, show a slice of watermelon that Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, second right, and Lt. Gov. Victor B. Hocog donated to the Office of the Aging.

3RD ANNIVERSARY KAGMAN CHC/ HEALTH FAIR

WHEN
Saturday, April 9, 2016
9am - 12pm

WHERE
Kagman Community Health Center Grounds
Lemmai Wy., Kagman II Homestead,
Saipan, MP 96950

FREE
Blood Pressure Screening • Blood Sugar Testing
MBI Measurement • Breast Exam • Family Planning
Fluoride Varnish Application • HIV/STD Screening
Immunization • Pap Smear • PPD Testing

Questions? Email frances.santos@kagmanchc.org or call Frances Santos at (670) 256-5240

EVENT FOR ALL AGES

ALL VILLAGES ARE INVITED

PARTNERS

- CHCC Division of Public Health
- Hardt Eye Clinic
- Marianas Eye Institute
- Saipan Southern High School Nursing Program

REFRESHMENTS SERVED

PRIZES AND GIVEAWAYS

FREE T-SHIRT FOR THE FIRST 100 REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS

您好! nín hǎo

Learning Chinese

Saipan Chinese Education Center
Address: Matsue St. China Town, Garapan

Basic Chinese, General Conversation

Flexible Schedule, Custom Courses, Open from April.

Saipan Chinese Education Center, founded in 1990, is affiliated with Chinese Association of Saipan, which has been established for 25 years. Reviewing the past eventful years, Saipan Chinese Center teaching center has been upholding the original intention to promote the Chinese culture. We cultivate a string of outstanding students while we provide the Chinese training to the local employee to meet the need for foreign language-speaking workforce critical in tourism industry.

For more details please contact:
1(670)233-3988 at Owen Ji
saipanchineseassociation1@gmail.com

Northern Marianas College PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH

Northern Marianas College is currently accepting applications for the position of President. The President of the Northern Marianas College serves as the chief executive officer for the Board of Regents and oversees a multi-campus college system located on three separate islands (Saipan, main campus; Rota and Tinian).

Northern Marianas College is a Land Grant Institution that is accredited by the Senior College and University Commission of the Western Association for Schools and Colleges. Founded in 1981, its focus continues to be ensuring student success and meeting the higher education and vocational training needs of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The institution has developed a comprehensive set of academic programs and services that address the social, cultural and economic development needs of its island communities.

Today, approximately 1,100 students are enrolled in credit programs that lead to an associate or bachelor's degree in the following areas: education, business, liberal arts, natural resource management, nursing, business administration, criminal justice, and hospitality management. The College also offers many non-credit, continuing education courses that are offered in various formats (online, hybrid, short-term, accelerated, etc.) throughout the year.

The President will report to the Board of Regents and will be expected to carry out the mission and vision of the College:

Mission: Northern Marianas College, through its commitment to student learning, provides high quality, affordable and accessible educational programs and services for the individual and people of the Commonwealth.

Vision: Northern Marianas College will serve as the engine to drive the economic growth and the social and cultural vitality of the Commonwealth.

Minimum Qualifications

- Earned doctorate degree from a U.S. accredited university or foreign equivalent;
- Seven (7) years of executive level management experience in an institution of higher education of which five (5) years are continuous, or a combination of at least seven (7) years of executive level management including post-secondary education teaching experience;
- Experience working in a multicultural environment, preferably in the Pacific region and in the Northern Mariana Islands;
- Substantiated experience in accreditation processes, personnel management, budget development and presentation, strategic planning and institutional assessment, fundraising, mediation, and team building; and
- Demonstrated knowledge of federal programs and grants application to higher education.

The salary for the position is \$80,000 to \$100,000 per annum plus benefits. Applicants with degrees from non-U.S. accredited institutions are responsible for providing an official evaluation of their degrees from an acceptable credential evaluation service to determine U.S. equivalency.

Applicants should include a curriculum vitae indicating their competences in Organizational Strategy, Resource Management, Communication, Collaboration, College Advocacy, and Professionalism; official transcripts; list of published journal work or scholarly research; three personal and three professional references (complete with name, title, address, phone/email contact); and four letters of professional recommendations specific to this position. Complete application packages and documents should be sent by certified priority mail and must be received by the closing date of April 15, 2016 for full consideration, to:

Ms. Cynthia I. Deleon Guerrero
Chairperson, Presidential Search Committee
Northern Marianas College (Attention: Human Resources Office)
P.O. Box 501250, Saipan, MP 96950

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas College that equal opportunity be given to all qualified applicants without regard to age, race, gender, marital status, place of origin, religion, disability status, political affiliation, family relationship, or genetic information (GINA). The College is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The College reserves the option to extend the closing date. For more information about this position announcement and about the College, visit www.marianas.edu.

HELP WANTED

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PERSONAL LINES

Qualifications:

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- Marketing and sales experience is a plus.
- Willing to undergo further training as required.
- Excellent communications skills.
- Computer literate. Good typing skills. Team Player.

Benefits Include: Sick leave, paid vacation, holiday pay, employee discounts, medical, dental and group life insurance (after probationary period). Profit Sharing Plan – US & CNMI residents (after one year).

Please apply in person. No phone calls please. Submit resume/application to Moylan's Insurance Office, Beach Road Garapan, Saipan. Or email: ctenorio@moylans.net Deadline for all submissions: Until Filled.



Moylan's Insurance Is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Man who interrupted Bible study and broke window gets 6 months in prison

Patrick Tudela Gibo, a 37-year-old man believed to have a mental problem, has entered a guilty plea and was slapped with a six-month prison term over an incident in 2014 when he barged into a Bible study at Grace Christian Ministries in Kagman III, interrupted a pastor, and attacked a person.

Gibo pleaded guilty on Wednesday afternoon to the offense of criminal mischief.

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman accepted the guilty plea and the agreement.

Wiseman sentenced Gibo to one year imprisonment, all suspended except six months to be served day for day without the possibility of parole.

Gibo was given credit for time served.

After serving the prison term, the defendant will be placed on supervised probation for two years. He was ordered to pay a \$200 fine and \$100 probation fee.

Gibo was required to report to the Community Guidance Center for anger management counseling and submit to an evaluation by CGC focusing on alcohol

and drug assessment, treatment, and screening.

The defendant is prohibited from possessing or consuming any alcoholic beverages or controlled substances during the period of probation.

In the Kagman incident, the Office of the Attorney General charged Gibo with criminal mischief, assault and battery, and three counts of disturbing the peace.

Gibo and counsel, assistant public defender Michael Sato, signed a plea deal with the government.

For pleading guilty to the offense of criminal mischief, assistant attorney general Chester Hinds moved to dismiss the remaining charges over the Kagman incident as well as in his separate criminal case in 2015. Wiseman granted the motion.

According to the factual basis of the plea deal, on Nov. 5, 2014 on Saipan, Gibo used a fire extinguisher and broke a window at Grace Christian Ministries.

Police detective Therese S. Kintoki stated in her report that people were about to start a Bible study at Grace Christian Ministries

on Nov. 5, 2014 at 6:30pm to 7pm, when Gibo interrupted the pastor by standing up during the session and talking while the pastor was speaking.

Gibo asked the pastor to pray for him, which the people did. He went outside, but returned a few minutes with a fire extinguisher. He hit the window of the Grace Christian Ministries with the fire extinguisher, shattering the glass.

Police said Gibo also assaulted a man who was in the Bible study. Retired police sergeant Sylvan Rangamar came and managed to subdue him. Two police officers later responded and arrested the defendant.

In January 2015, Wiseman ordered Gibo's temporary release because the person qualified to perform his psychiatric evaluation could not be found.

On Sept. 11, 2015, Gibo was arrested again shortly after he allegedly punched a mid-level provider and a physician at the Commonwealth Health Center. As part of the plea deal, this case was also dismissed. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**

Man beats up daughter, boyfriend in middle of road

A man lost his temper upon seeing his daughter together with his married boyfriend in a car, cut them off with his truck, and allegedly beat them up at the traffic signal light intersection of Chalan Pale Arnold Road and Quartermaster Road on midnight Sunday.

Noel Baitlon, 56, was arrested on charges of assault and battery, disturbing the peace, driving on highways laned for traffic, causing an accident, and reckless driving.

At a bail hearing yesterday, Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo imposed a \$3,250 cash bail and set the preliminary hearing for April 7 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Michael Sato was appointed as counsel for Baitlon. Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government.

Police Detective Peter A. Aldan stated in his report that between 12am to 12:56am on Sunday, the male alleged victim arrived at a store in San Jose and offered a ride home to his girlfriend, who is a cashier.

The two agreed that the

girlfriend would drive his car because she was practicing for her driving test next month.

As the two arrived at the girlfriend's apartment in Chalan Lau Lau, they saw Baitlon pulling into the driveway of the apartment in his truck.

Since Baitlon barred the two to see each other, the two tried to avoid an argument so they drove off heading north to Chalan Pale Arnold.

Baitlon, however, saw them and followed in his truck. As she passed Chalan Pale Arnold/Quartermaster intersection, Baitlon sped north on the inner lane and abruptly turned right onto the outer lane and cut the car off with his truck.

The truck's right rear tire and the bed's right rear fender body clipped the car's front left bumper. She stopped the car in the middle of the inner north-bound lane.

Baitlon partially pulled off the road, got down and through the driver's window, thrice slapped his daughter and shouted profanities at her.

When the boyfriend opened the car's door and put his

right foot to step out, Baitlon started punching him in the face and yelling at him that he already talked to him to stop bothering his daughter.

The daughter tried to stop her father, Baitlon, from beating up her boyfriend. Baitlon, however, slammed the car's passenger door on his daughter's boyfriend's right ankle.

Baitlon shouted at his daughter to walk home. He then got into his truck and drove away.

The boyfriend called 911 for police assistance. He was limping when a police officer arrived at the scene. He refused medical attention.

Police officers later proceeded to the residence of Baitlon, who allegedly admitted to police that he lost his temper and punched the boyfriend of his daughter.

Baitlon said he already talked to the boyfriend to stop checking on his daughter because he has a wife and children.

Baitlon was arrested and released the following day. On Wednesday night, he was served with an arrest warrant. **(Ferdie de la Torre)**



COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950
Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED BIDS for reconditioning of the perimeter fence and widening of Charlie Dock service gate at the Port of Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Project No. CPA-SS-002-15 will be received at the office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP, 96950.

All Bids shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: Port of Saipan Reconditioning of the Perimeter Fence/Widening of Charlie Service Gate, Project No. CPA-SS-002-15 and must be submitted no later than **2:00 p.m. on FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2016** to the Office of the Executive Director at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed Bids will be publicly opened and read. Bidders are requested to submit one original and two copies of its bid proposal.

The Project, in general, consists of, but is not limited to Construction of the **PERIMETER FENCE RECONDITIONING/WIDENING OF CHARLIE SERVICE GATE PROJECT**. The Work involves removing the entire existing chain-link fabric and all accessories and replacing them with new chain-link fabric and accessories. It also includes the removal of the existing Charlie gate and replacing it with a new wider sliding gate all in accordance with the plans and specifications, rules and regulations of all governing agencies. The project is located at the Saipan Seaport, Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands.

A CD-Rom containing the Bid Proposal and Contract Documents, including Drawings and Specifications, may be obtained at the Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, upon payment of **ONE HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$150.00)** for each set of documents in electronic form, including the Bid Schedule. The payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, cashier's check or U.S. Postal money order made payable to the "Commonwealth Ports Authority".

The Project is being financed by funds from Port Security Grants from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The Contract award, if it is made, will be made within sixty (60) calendar days of the receipt of Bid Proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold such Bids in effect for ninety (90) calendar days from the date of Bid opening.

The Contract period for construction of the Project in its entirety shall be **one hundred fifty (150) calendar days**. Liquidated damages in the amount of **three hundred fifty dollars (\$350.00)** shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day completion of the Project is delayed beyond the Contract completion date without approved excuse.

The apparent low bidder may be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Seaport Conference Room, George A. Fleming Office Building, Port of Saipan, at **10:00 a.m., Monday, MARCH 28, 2016**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Questions should be submitted to the Executive Director, Commonwealth Ports Authority, in writing, at least seven (7) days prior to the pre-bid conference.

Each proposal shall be on a form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The bidders are required to use the bid schedule form on the CD-Rom. The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the procurement contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than **TEN PERCENT (10%)** of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-25 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications, and bid proposal documents are available for inspection at the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All bidders shall comply with all Federal requirements under this procurement, including but not limited to Buy American Preference, Foreign Trade Restriction, Davis Bacon, Veteran's Preference, Affirmative Action and Government-wide Debarment and Suspension and Government-wide Requirements for Drug-free Workplace. Further details on all Federal requirements are provided in the specifications.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ THOMAS P. VILLAGOMEZ
Acting Chairman of the Board/Contracting Officer

Date: March 17, 2016

Saipan Tribune Make it your *DAILY* habit.

Tinian's Borja, Aldan seek re-election as team

Senate President Francisco M. Borja (Ind-Tinian) together with Rep. Edwin Aldan (Ind-Tinian) announced to members of the Tinian Leadership and Gov. Ralph DLG Torres that they will be seeking re-election as a team for the upcoming mid-term election.

Borja and Aldan will be seeking the endorsement of both the Tinian and the CNMI Republican Party.

"There is so much more to be accomplished for Tinian and the Commonwealth as a whole. This leadership, despite being from different parties, from the very beginning has always worked as a Team," stated Borja. "A Borja-Aldan tandem is a team that is united for a common goal and that goal to continue with the work of moving Tinian and the CNMI forward."

Aldan expressed his appreciation to the Tinian Leadership for their support and asked for their continued support and endorsement as they seek re-election as a team. Aldan was the only independent candidate who was elected at the general election. "I believe that it is always better for Tinian if as leaders, despite our party identities, work as a team for the benefit of our island. That is what we have been doing and that is what we are

asking the people to allow us to do by seeking another term as a team."

Mayor Joey P. San Nicolas expressed his support for the Borja-Aldan tandem pledging his endorsement of the team as soon as they are officially endorsed by the party. "While we have had and continue to have challenges during the course of my administration, the team spirit of the Tinian Leadership has allowed us to tackle those challenges head on. The leadership of Senator Borja and Congressman Aldan has been pivotal in those efforts and for that, they have my full support as they seek another term in public office to serve our community."

Torres also expressed his support of the Borja-Aldan tandem and pledged his endorsement of the team. "The lieutenant governor and I assure the two of you that you have our full support and the full backing of our party."

Borja, who is also the Tinian Republican's Party chairman, also announced that he will be stepping down as the Tinian Republican Party chair. After the party has been re-organized with a new leadership, Borja and Aldan will be submitting their letters of intent to seek re-election under the banner of the Tinian Republican Party. (PR)

Dragon Edong returns to Saipan

Good news to all tattoo fans on Saipan! One of the most respected and popular artists based on island will be back soon to showcase his world-class talent.

Now is your chance to witness once again the remarkable skills of internationally recognized artist Dragon Edong Elenzano, who has won several awards and recognition from different tattoo competition and festivals around the world. He will be coming to Saipan for the 2016 Flame Tree Arts Festival from April 14 to 17.

Dragon Edong might not literally breathe fire but he can surely ignite the crowd with his mastery of the art of tattoo. This will definitely be an exciting event to watch out for where you have the chance to be tattooed by a multi-awarded tattoo artist or to be amazed as he performs his artistry.

Since transferring his Megavision El Drako Tattoo shop in Guam last year, Elenzano had already made a mark and an impact in his new home. In a short period of time, he became the talk of the town among locals and military personnel.

More importantly, after being recognized with the cov-



Elenzano

eted 2015 Best Tattoo Shop of Guam Award, Elenzano was chosen by the Council on the Arts of Humanities Agency as the sole delegate of Guam in traditional art (tattoo) as it hosts the upcoming 12th Festival of Pacific Arts happening from May 22 to June 4.

FESTPAC is a cultural festival held every four years that brings together artists and cultural practitioners from around the Pacific region. A total of 27 countries throughout the Pacific will participate in this grand event with an expected 2,500-3,000 delegates.

Megavision El Drako tattoo is located in South Marine Drive, Tamuning, Guam across Mobil and Megabyte. For more details, you may visit their official website at www.dragonedongtatu.com or contact them via tel. no. 671-971-1180 or email dragonedong@gmail.com. (PR)



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

Judiciary Administrative Office
Guma' Hustisia · Iimwal Aweewe · House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 · Saipan MP 96950
T: (670) 236-9715 · F: (670) 236-9702



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

CASELOAD COORDINATOR / TREATMENT PROFESSIONAL

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the Drug Court Judge in the Superior Court on Saipan which is responsible for overall planning, management oversight and daily operations of the Drug Court. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Interviews clients and other appropriate persons to obtain information and make preliminary assessment of cases in order to make proper referrals;
- Prepares social studies, case histories, reports and evaluations concerning information secured and services rendered;
- Manages the implementation and administration of Drug Court treatment programs for the Division of Community Control;
- Counsels substance abuse individual, group counseling, family counseling, and evaluation screenings for potential participants in Drug Court programs;
- Maintains knowledge of the judicial system and its interrelationship in court-referred inmates;
- Provides managerial direction to professional staff engaged in the operation of Drug Court treatment services;
- Participates in the selection, summarization, and presentation of case data from a variety of sources for casework planning, supervisory conferences, and consultations;
- Coordinates all court related referrals through judicial system, attorney general's office and public defender;
- Conducts program needs assessment and submits requests for capital expenditures, staffing, and program enhancements where indicated;
- Develops, coordinates and monitors record keeping systems for effective program evaluation;
- Promotes and organizes community support for agency criminal justice/substance abuse programs through lectures, training and meetings;
- Maintains liaison and confers with public officials, agency representative, and other professional persons regarding specific cases; interprets and provides public information regarding agency program objectives and activities;
- Develops and administers all reporting profiles for funding agencies;
- Assists in the preparation and maintains program annual budget, and grant support activities;
- Develops and administers all reporting profiles for judicial purposes; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent and graduate from a recognized College or University in Behavioral Science. Minimum three (3) years supervisory and administrative experience in the administration of a licensed criminal justice/substance abuse/mental health treatment center; experience should include participation in the development and implementation of regulated treatment programs; or an equivalent combination of education, training, and experience.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. Salary will be \$50,000 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at the OPM offices in the CNMI, at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

Human Resources
Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670)236-9818
Fax. (670) 236-9702
michelle.guerrero@justice.gov.mp

This internal job announcement will remain open until filled. Also, this job announcement can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at <http://www.justice.gov.mp>.

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Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

CERTIFIED CASE WORKER I

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the Caseload Coordinator / Treatment Professional in the Drug Court Division on Saipan which is responsible for drug court assessments and conducting therapeutic/educational/substance abuse treatment groups with drug court participants. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Conducts program/phase orientation and inform participants of legal requirements and implications concerning treatment;
- Assesses and establish treatment plan for participants;
- Keeps track of drug tests, group attendance, individual counseling attendance, outside groups (AA, NA, CA);
- Provides clinical case management;
- Conducts individual, family and group therapeutic/educational/substance abuse treatment sessions/and crisis intervention;
- Conducts discharge planning and provide referrals for continuing treatment;
- Provides follow-up contact as needed;
- Communicates with probation officer to secure resources for participants status updates of participants;
- Maintains files, records legal and case documentation in accordance with established regulatory policies and procedure;
- Attends staff meetings, in-service training, workshops, and interagency conferences to coordinate services; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have a high school diploma or equivalent and have obtained a bachelors degree from a recognized college or university in Social Work, Psychology, Sociology, or closely related field. Have three (3) years experience as a counselor in substance abuse treatment programs. Any equivalent combination of experience and training which provides the minimum knowledge, abilities and skills required for the position.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. Salary will be \$40,000 annually.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application forms at the OPM offices in the CNMI, at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Tinian and Rota. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

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Monday to Saturday
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



'OAG petition to shut down case act of desperation'

"What the Attorney General has done by filing the writ of prohibition is shocking," said Michael Dotts, the attorney for the Aguon family and other families who seek to collect on judgments entered against the Commonwealth Health Center for medical malpractice.

On Thursday, the Office of the Attorney General filed a writ of prohibition with the Supreme Court. The petition for a writ of prohibition requests the Supreme Court to order Superior Court Associ-

ate Judge Joseph N. Camacho not to hear Aguon's claim that the government must pay their judgment.

"The Aguon family lost a child because of the medical malpractice of CHC," explained Dotts. "The Aguon family obtained a judgment. The government then simply refused to pay. We all know that what the government is doing is wrong and we believe that the Superior Court will put an end to the government's disgraceful behavior. So what

the Attorney General's Office has apparently decided to do is to try to stop the Superior Court from hearing this case."

The petition for a writ of probation argues that the Superior Court has no jurisdiction to find that it was improper under the Balanced Budget Act not to appropriate money to pay judgments. "The argument is illogical," said Dotts. "The Superior Court entered the judgment against the government in favor of the Aguons. How can the Superior

Court not have jurisdiction to make the government pay the judgment?"

The petition also argues that plaintiffs' lack standing as their injuries are self-inflicted. "Self-inflicted injury? Unbelievable!" said Dotts. "This argument that the Aguon family is somehow responsible for the situation they are in after CHC committed malpractice that resulted in the death of their child and the government's refusal to pay, is ludicrous." It is also highly offen-

sive," said Dotts.

Dotts continued: "The Superior Court through Judge Camacho gave us the chance to get documents and to have a hearing in May to prove what we all know to be true—that the government purposely does not pay judgments even though funds are available. The government wants to spend the people's money on travel and other perks, instead of paying off lawful obligations. This is wrong and violates the Balanced Budget Act.

"The Attorney General's Office does not want to have to provide documents and answer questions in a deposition and on the witness stand because they know they have no defense. They are afraid the Superior Court will put an end to their lawless behavior. The petition filed by the Attorney General to shut down the case is an act of desperation of a guilty defendant, and we are sure the Supreme Court will see it for what it is." (PR)

FOR 20TH ANNUAL CHARITY GOLF CLASSIC

Hyatt receives donation from Coca-Cola, Foremost Foods

Coca-Cola Beverage Co. (Micronesia) and Foremost Foods Saipan presented Hyatt Regency Saipan with over \$2,000 worth of beverages and supplies for this year's 20th Annual Charity Golf Classic.

With their generous donation Coca-Cola and Foremost

Foods, a Platinum Sponsor, for this year's golf tournament, will host two booths on the course serving beverages to players.

Foremost Foods Saipan will serve cold coffee beverages at the registration area prior to the start of the event.

Coca-Cola Beverage Co. (Micronesia) will host a beverage station on the course located in hole No. 8 serving Powerade beverages to golfers.

The proceeds of the event will go to assist this year's charity recipients, the Make-A-Wish® Foundation, a

primary beneficiary and local non-profit organization, Northern Marianas Trades Institute (NMTI), both of which are equally proud to be this year's recipients.

Assistant Director of Food and Beverage Seiji Shindo states, "On behalf of Hyatt

Regency Saipan, I would like to personally thank Coca-Cola Beverage Co. (Micronesia) and Foremost Foods Saipan, for their continuous support with the Charity Golf Classic. We have had a great business relationship for many years now and most especially a

great relationship in working together to support our island community. Thank you."

"Coca-Cola and Foremost Foods are proud to be a partner with Hyatt Regency Saipan for this worthy cause. We share common values of social responsibility within our communities," said Marcos Fong, CEO, Coca-Cola Beverage Co. (Micronesia) and Foremost Foods Saipan.

Early Bird registration is open until April 18, 2016 at 4pm. Hyatt Regency Saipan will hold its 20th Annual Charity Golf Classic event at LaoLao Bay Golf and Resort West Course on April 23, 2016. For more information please contact 234-1234 ext. 26. (PR)

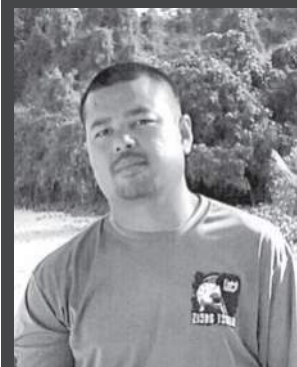


CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
From left, Ranilo Enriquez, Coca-Cola Hydration team member; Ailene Benavidez, Coca-Cola and Foremost assistant operations manager; Seiji Shindo, Hyatt Regency Saipan Food and Beverage assistant director; Rosalyn Quintanilla, Hyatt Regency Saipan director of Rooms; and Maria Valentina Haberman, Hyatt Regency Saipan Marketing Communications manager pose for a group photo.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Belated happy birthday to my loving wife and loving mother Manuela Ada who has always been there for us through thick and thin. May your day be full of love. We love you always. From your loving husband and children Henry Ada, Daniel, Aundrea, Peter, and Daemon



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The best way to enjoy life is to forget the age and just remember the memories. Happy 30th birthday to Johnathan C. Camacho who will be celebrating his special day on Sunday, April 3, 2016. Greeting from Christina, Callian, and Sammy.

MCS holds students film festival at Regal Cinemas

Student directors in Mount Carmel School's filmmaking class had the chance to showcase their work on the big screen this past week when the school held a film festival at Regal Cinemas this past week. The festival featured three films, directed by Keona Camacho, Poima Tarkong, and Justin Ocampo. Over 200 students were bused over to the theaters to watch the three films, as well as a Knightly News segment and a few other student films from the school's

film archives.

'Why Me' directed by Keona Camacho

Camacho's film, "Why Me," takes the audience into the dreams of a boy, played by Markel Toves, who is bullied on a daily basis. While he tends to find escape in his dreams, the film chronicles one dream that goes horribly wrong, leading the lead character to ask, "Why me?"

Camacho took great pains to ensure the film achieved

her vision of combatting bullying. And despite several filmmaking challenges along the way, she was happy with how her film and all the films turned out. "I really liked all the films, especially from my filmmaking classmates."

'The Walk' directed by Poima Tarkong

Tarkong's film, "The Walk," at first seems like a film about a stalker, played by Shannon Sasamoto, who follows a boy, played by Sophomore Don

Castro. However, a plot twist towards the end of the film changes the whole perspective on the situation.

While Tarkong is a seasoned filmmaker who has made other student films in the past, she still found the process difficult. But that difficulty faded when the audience started laughing at the film. She likened it to creating life. "It's kind of like giving a baby, it hurts, but once the baby comes out, everyone loves it."

'Prank' directed by Justin Ocampo

Ocampo's "Prank" throws a comic twist on a classic prank by elevating the ensuing conflict to an epic chase as the lead character, played by Lance Deleon Guerrero, pursues the film's prankster, played by William Blake Deleon Guerrero.

While he faced his share of filmmaking challenges, Ocampo was very pleased with the final product. "I was so sucked into the film, that I barely noticed how the audience reacted to it." (PR)

DOI gives USVI \$25K to launch Every Kid in a Park

ST. JOHN, U.S. Virgin Islands—As part of the Obama Administration’s Every Kid in a Park initiative, U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell today joined fourth graders from the Julius E. Sprauve elementary school in a visit to the Cinnamon Bay Archeology Lab in Virgin Islands National Park on St. John to announce important funding launching the Every Kid in a Park program in the U.S. Virgin Islands (USVI).

The Every Kid in a Park initiative is part of an overall strategy to connect young people to the outdoors. The program allows fourth graders nationwide to go to www.everykidinapark.gov and obtain a pass for free entry for them and their families to more than 2,000 federally managed lands and waters nationwide—including in the USVI—for an entire year, starting September 1, 2015.

Jewell, Virgin Islands National Park Superintendent Brion FitzGerald, and Assistant Secretary for Insular Areas Esther Kia’aina presented the students with their Every Kid in a Park passes. The Secretary and the 4th graders also participated in educational ac-

tivities, including a ‘Touch the Past’ field trip that incorporated a hike through the Cinnamon Bay Nature Loop and a hands-on discovery activity to sort artifacts found in the park that help tell the story of the people of the Virgin Islands.

The secretary also announced a \$25,000 grant to cover transportation costs for the 600 fourth graders in USVI public schools on St. Thomas and St. John to enjoy a day in the park at any USVI National Park location.

“The students visiting Virgin Islands National Park today with their Every Kid in a Park passes learned about local natural resources, history and culture while enjoying one of our nation’s most beautiful aquatic and coral reef parks,” said Secretary Jewell. “Using our public lands as living classrooms is one of the ways the Obama Administration is working to ensure all students—including USVI students—have the tools they need to understand the importance of the natural and cultural resources in their own backyard and beyond.”

“I am delighted that we can help facilitate introducing the youth of the Virgin Islands

to the National Park system. Bringing youth into the parks at an early age creates an appreciation of the outdoors and wild places,” said Brion FitzGerald, superintendent of Virgin Islands National Park.

The \$25,000 grant, provided by Interior’s Office of Insular Affairs through its Technical Assistance Program, will be directed to the Friends of the Virgin Islands National Park over the next year to launch the Every Kid in a Park Program on the USVI. Programming will take place in Virgin Islands National Park and Virgin Island Coral Reef National Monument locations on St. John, and on Hassel Island in Charlotte Amalie Harbor in St. Thomas. The funding will cover the logistical support required to provide each 4th grader a one-time trip to a park or monument location of their choice, including boat transportation to Hassel Islands as well as taxi and ferry charges related to St. John and St. Thomas excursions.

Every Kid in a Park recognizes the role of national parks as a premier provider of place-based education. U.S. Virgin Islands National Park offers a variety of natural and

cultural curriculum-based educational opportunities, including field trips and park ranger visits to classrooms. The website www.nps.gov/history/teachers contains lesson plans and content on more than 125 subjects, ranging from archeology to biology to Constitutional law.

Fourth graders, their parents and educators can log onto the website at www.everykidinapark.gov and complete a fun educational activity in order to obtain and print a paper pass. Students may also trade in their paper pass for a more durable pass at participating federal sites nationwide.

The Every Kid in a Park program furthers President Obama’s commitment to protect our nation’s unique outdoor spaces and provide every American with opportunities to visit and enjoy them. By introducing fourth graders to public lands in their backyards and beyond, the program delivers a nationwide call to action to build the next generation of stewards of our country’s spectacular and diverse federal lands and waters.

The program is part the Obama Administration’s overall efforts to engage young people from all ages and all backgrounds in the great out-

doors. This includes the 21st Century Conservation Service Corps, a bold national effort to put thousands of young people and veterans to work protecting, restoring and enhancing America’s public lands and waters. In addition, Interior’s leadership of First Lady Michelle Obama’s Let’s Move! Outside initiative is committed to getting millions of young people to play, learn, serve and work in America’s great outdoors. These initiatives also complement the National Park Service’s Find Your Park campaign celebrating this year’s centennial of the National Park System. **(PR)**

Pacific Fleet Band to hold performances

ASAN, Guam—The U.S. Pacific Fleet Band has scheduled public performances while on island this coming weekend.

The band, based out of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, will perform on the following dates and locations:

- April 2: 4pm and 5:30pm at the U.S. Naval Base Guam’s “Maila Halom” event on Polaris Point in Piti
- April 3: 11am at Micro-

nesia Mall’s center court in Dededo

■ April 3: 5pm at Guam Premier Outlets’ food court in Tamuning

The performances are free and open to the public.

During their visit, the band will also mentor music students and perform at George Washington High School in Mangilao the morning of April 4.

Under the operational

control of the Commander, United States Pacific Fleet, the Pacific Fleet Band is dedicated to providing top quality music and entertainment in support of the U.S. Navy’s retention and recruiting programs, and for internal and external public relations.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055. **(PR)**



WOMEN LEADERS

The 3rd Women’s Summit with a theme, “Pledge For Parity,” was held this week on Saipan, bringing women leaders from different field of disciplines and sectors together. Some of the women leaders gather for this photo. They are Department of Labor Secretary Edith Deleon Guerrero, top left, and CNMI Women’s Association Program Administrator Debra Inos, top right. In the foreground are, from left, Doris Drew, special assistant for Women’s Affairs Office and member of the CWA board of directors, Imperial Pacific Holdings-Best Sunshine International majority shareholder Margaret Cui Lijie, and Jacqueline Che, CWA secretary.

RICARDO E. ANTONIO
P.O. Box 502370
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 235-0221

Pro-Se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS

RICARDO E. ANTONIO) FCD DI-
) Civil Action
Petitioner,) No. 15-0414
)
vs.) SUMMONS
)
MARIA BOCTOY-ANTONIO)
)
Respondent.)

TO: RESPONDENT, MARIA B. ANTONO

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED, and notified to file an answer to the Complaint, a copy of which is given you herewith, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you and deliver or mail a copy of your Answer to the Petitioner, whose address is at P.O. Box 502370, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practicable after filing your answer.

Your Answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, CNMI. It may be prepared and sign by your counsel or by you and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an Answer in accordance with this Summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in Complaint.

By Order of the Court.
Date: 9/11/15

/s/ Clerk of Court

ERMINDA F. ERENO
P.O. Box 500859
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 287-1191

Pro-Se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re The Matter Of) FCD GU
The Petition To) CIVIL ACTION
Appoint General) NO.16-0059
Guardianship For:)
)
GWENNETH SOFIA E.) NOTICE OF
CALAGE) HEARING
)
Minor Child)
)
By:)
ERMINDA F. ERENO)
)
Petitioner)

Notice is hereby given that the
above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on
April 14, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. in Courtroom 205A,
before Honorable Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Date this 23rd day of February, 2016.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Robert Tenorio Torres
Attorney at Law
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-7859
Facsimile: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT
FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM,) Small Claims
) No.: 14-0460
Plaintiff,)
vs.) AMENDED
JULITA W. TUTIY,) SUMMONS
)
Defendant.)

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:
JULITA W. TUTIY

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED AND NOTIFIED to file any answer you wish to make to the AMENDED COMPLAINT, a copy of which can be obtained at the Law Offices of Robert Tenorio Torres in Chalan Kiya, within twenty (20) days after service of this AMENDED SUMMONS upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to Robert Tenorio Torres, Attorney at Law, P.O. Box 503758, Saipan, MP 96950, or as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Court of the above-entitled Court for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Office of the Clerk of Court, CNMI Superior Court, 1st Floor, Guma' Hustisia, Iimwal Aweewe, House of Justice, P.O. Box 500307, Saipan, MP 96950-0307. It may be prepared and signed for you by your attorney and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or by mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this AMENDED SUMMONS, judgment by default pursuant to the court rules of the above-entitled Court may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Amended Complaint.

SO ORDERED on this 8th day of March, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk

NOTICE OF
INACTIVE
BANK
ACCOUNT

Centurion Casualty
Company is holding the
following unclaimed
property checks. The
funds will be transferred
to the Commonwealth
Treasurer in June 2016.

Norbert O. Mettao
P.O. Box 501729
Saipan, MP 96950
\$1.79

Carl T. Cepeda
2858 Rocky Creek LN SE
Port Orchard, WA 98366
\$3.50

Let's GO!

LOOKING FOR: UTV Mechanic

Become a part of Saipan's most unique off-road experience team! Let's Go Tour Company has an opening for a Full Time Mechanic in its Saipan base. We passionately serve people who enjoy the outdoor lifestyle by delivering innovation, quality and value in our products and service. At Let's Go Tour Company you will meet new people every day while enjoying the spirit of adventure!

Position Overview:
This position is responsible for servicing, diagnosing, repairing and installing motors, parts, and general components of a "Utility Terrain Vehicle" (UTV).

Essential Job Functions:
Assures vehicles are repaired in a timely and accurate manner by performing the necessary diagnostics and trouble shooting, consulting with supervisor and manager when necessary. Moves vehicles around interior or exterior of the buildings. Assists in loading and unloading of passengers when needed. Assists in tour guide/driving functions when needed.

Requirements:
4+ years of experience in auto mechanics

Hiring preference is given to those with solid mechanical knowledge and at least 2 years of experience in the power sports (Motorcycles/ATV's/UTV's/Jetskis/Boats) industry.

Interested applicants may send their applications to hr.Int@tanholdings.com. Applications for Employment are available at the Human Resources Department located at the 2nd floor of the JP Center Building along Beach Road or at the Century Tours office at Kanoa Resort. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

12 Japanese students, teacher relish Saipan trip



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS
Osaka ECC Jr. Nishishin-machi Classroom students taught fourth and sixth grade students of Garapan Elementary School how to make Shogun hats out of newspapers.

Japanese students pose with Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang during their visit late last month.



Twelve students and a teacher from Osaka ECC Jr. Nishishin-machi Classroom visited Saipan from March 26 to 30, 2016.

During their five-day stay, local families hosted the students.

On March 27, students enjoyed the Easter Sunday activities with their host family. On March 28, they took English lessons in the morning and visited Garapan Elementary School and the Saipan Mayor's Office in the afternoon.

The Japanese students taught fourth and sixth grade students of Garapan Elementary School how to make Shogun hats out of newspapers and some ORIGAMI. In the return, local students taught the Japanese students how to make bracelets out of beads.

After visiting Garapan Elementary School, the Japanese students visited Sugar King Park and American Memorial Park to watch historical DVDs. They also visited the

Saipan Mayor's Office and donated some money for the recovery from Typhoon Soudelor last August. In fact, the group was planning to visit Saipan last August but due to the damage from the typhoon, they postponed their trip.

On March 29, they had English lessons in the morning and went to Managaha Island in the afternoon.

They enjoyed the swimming and the Banana Boat ride. The Japanese students went back to Japan onboard United Airlines via Guam.

Chikako Tsukuda said the students really enjoyed their stay in Saipan. The cultural exchange with local students at Garapan Elementary School turned out very well.

"Finally, we could come to Saipan. Some students wished to ride the Banana Boat again," Tsukuda said.

The group received certificate of the appreciation and Saipanda backpacks from the Marianas Visitors Authority. (PR)



Osaka ECC Jr. Nishishin-machi Classroom teacher Chikako Tsukuda receives a certificate of appreciation from Pacific Development, Inc.'s Gordon Marciano.

ON 3 SEPARATE CASES IN SOUTH PACIFIC

Coast Guard coordinates, assist search efforts for 9 missing boaters

HONOLULU—U.S. Coast Guard and AMVER crews rescued three boaters in the waters between Chuuk and Puluwat Atoll, Federated States of Micronesia, Wednesday. An HC-130 Hercules aircraft crew from Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point on Oahu, located three additional boater missing near Tarawa and are coordinating their rescue by a commercial vessel and the same Hercules aircraft crew has been diverted to search for an additional vessel also with three boaters overdue near Tarawa.

In the first case, three boaters, several days overdue on a voyage from Chuuk to Puluwat Atoll, in the Federated States of Micronesia are safe in Puluwat Atoll, Wednesday, following a joint international search. The missing men were on a 19-foot skiff and located by the motor vessel Shoryu. All three men were brought aboard the Shoryu and are reportedly to be in good condition. The skiff was placed in a side tow and the Shoryu took the three men to Puluwat. A family member reported the men overdue Monday, prompting a search by the Coast Guard. Watchstanders

at Coast Guard Sector Guam issued an Urgent Marine Information Broadcast alerting mariners in the region to the situation. The watchstanders coordinated search efforts of two Automated Mutual Assistance Vessel Rescue System ships: the Soma Maru and Shoryu and provided search patterns for each vessel.

In the second case near Tarawa, a Hercules aircraft crew located three boaters, missing for eight days, just before noon, Wednesday. They dropped supplies from the plane to the boaters and the Coast Guard is working to identify a vessel in the area to relocate and rescue them. Watchstanders at the Coast Guard Joint Rescue Command Center in Honolulu were notified Monday, by search coordinators with the Rescue Coordination Center Nadi, Fiji, of an overdue 17-foot white and yellow skiff. The vessel reportedly had a 40 hp engine with 18 to 20 gallons of fuel on board and some fresh water. The skiff was reportedly last seen the morning of March 22 departing Teoraereke Village, Tarawa, en route a fishing area 10 miles to the south. A Royal New Zealand Air Force P-3 Orion air-

plane crew completed a search Saturday with no sightings. The Coast Guard provided the Hercules aircrew Tuesday. Due to the distance the crew covered to get to the search area, roughly 2,400 miles the distance from Los Angeles to New York City, they were able to search for 1 hour on scene before needing to land for crew rest and to refuel. Their search resumed Wednesday at first light.

In the third case Coast Guard watchstanders in Honolulu are coordinating with search and rescue controllers at RCC Fiji to search for an overdue 18-foot skiff with three boaters aboard reportedly left Tarawa en route Maiana on a fishing trip. The Coast Guard C-130 aircraft that searched on the second case has been diverted to begin searching the area. The missing 19-foot skiff is three days overdue on their return from fishing near Maiana.

"We sincerely appreciate the support and coordination of all our search and rescue partners. Due to the size and scope of the Pacific we depend on them to help us respond in a timely manner in remote locations," said Petty

Officer 1st Class Dustin Welch, a search and rescue controller at Coast Guard Joint Rescue Command Center Honolulu. "We also recommend to all boaters to be prepared for unforeseen interruptions in their voyages by being prepared with extra supplies and communications devices."

Mariners are reminded a properly registered electronic position indicating radio beacon can make a dramatic difference not only in being located, but in the amount of time spent at sea. EPIRBs use satellites, not line-of-site like VHF radios or cellular towers, increasing their range and reliability. They're highly accurate and once activated provide rescuers with excellent location information for anyone in distress, significantly reducing on scene search time.

AMVER, sponsored by the Coast Guard, is a computer-based, voluntary global ship reporting system used worldwide by search and rescue authorities. With AMVER, rescue coordinators can identify participating ships in the area of distress and divert the best-suited ship or ships to respond. (PR)

2 Saipan beaches red-flagged

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged Hafa Adai Drainage and Da-Ichi Drainage on Saipan and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal

indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzes water samples collected from Saipan's recreational beaches and storm drainage every Tuesday. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. (DEQ)

'Glow Into The Night' bash on April 1

Blue Marianas Productions, a Junior Achievement Company from Marianas High School, is going to have a "Glow Into The Night" bash on April 1, 2016 at Garapan Round House starting 6pm up to 10pm and it's open to public ages 13 and up.

Blue Marianas Productions is pre-selling bash tickets for only \$3 and on the day

of the event, entrance will be \$5. Contact Blue Marianas Productions through its social media accounts for more information.

"Light up the night at the Glow bash" is sponsored by IT&E. Blue Marianas Productions' Facebook account is Blue Marianas Productions. Its Instagram/twitter/@MarianasProdx or call 483-7993. (PR)

BECQ to commemorate EAM with slew of activities

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality is commemorating Environmental Awareness Month this April. EAM is all about protecting and caring for our islands, and this year's theme is "Our Natural Treasures." To celebrate, BECQ is hosting a number of activities throughout the month of April.

It starts with the EAM proclamation signing today, April 1, 10:30am at the Governor's Office.

BECQ Lab Tours will also be held on April 7-8, 14-15, and 27-28 at the agency's office. The purpose of the Lab Tours is to give students an insight on how it is to work in a laboratory and gain knowledge on the importance of testing our water quality; in addition, to determine whether our beaches are safe to swim in. The Lab staff will be showing the students their facilities and what are the tools and skills needed to have in order to work in the lab.

For more information about the Lab Tours, please

contact Dean Palacios or Charito Bautista at BECQ, (670) 664-8500 or E-mail: deanpalacios@becq.gov.mp or charitobaustita@becq.gov.mp and sign up today!

On April 16 and 30, CNMI Snorkels Day will be held at the Flame Tree Festival (Civic Center Beach) and Obyan Beach, respectively, from 9am to 12pm. The activity is free.

BECQ will also be partnering with the Micronesia Islands Nature Alliance and Let's Move Marianas to invite the public to come out and join us in its standing CNMI Snorkels Program.

Bring your snorkel or use one of ours—hop in the lagoon with marine biologists to see our ocean environment up close, and get a workout in for your day! BECQ's snorkeling experts will be available to help you learn how to use your mask and snorkel.

For more information, please contact Avra Heller at BECQ, (670) 664-8500 or e-mail: avrahellerdeq@gmail.com.

A tree giveaway will also be

held on April 16 from 9am to 12pm at the Flame Tree Arts Festival.

In partnership with CNMI Forestry and NMC-CREES, BECQ will be giving out free native trees and plants to the community.

The "Tree Giveaway" event is to promote the reduction of harmful erosion impacts that's facing our precious islands.

For more information, please contact Jonathan Arriola at BECQ, (670) 664-8500 or E-mail: jonathanarriola@becq.gov.mp.

An Environmental Expo for all 4th and 5th graders will be held on April 19-20 (8:30am-1pm) and April 21, 2016 (12:30pm-3pm) at the American Memorial Park.

It is one of BECQ's main events for Environmental Awareness Month and BECQ is excited to invite 4th and 5th grade students, educators, and the public to attend. This is a showcase of the CNMI's environmental and natural resource groups in conducting widespread outreach.

For more information about the Environmental Expo, please contact Avra Heller or Jihan Buniag at BECQ, (670) 664-8500 or E-mail: avrahellerdeq@gmail.com / jihanbuniagbecq@gmail.com.

On April 29, an Island Wide Clean-up will be held from 2:30pm to 4:30pm. For more information, please contact Aileen Benavente or Tom Pangelinan at BECQ, (670) 664-8500 or e-mail: aileenbenavente@becq.gov.mp / tom-pangelinan@becq.gov.mp and sign up today!

BECQ will also be holding several competitions during Environmental Awareness Month.

Its "Trash to Treasure" Tote Bag Design Contest will be held on April 16 at the Flame Tree Arts Festival.

The goal of this contest is to actively encourage the use of reusable shopping bags within our community and decrease the amount of plastic bags bringing harmful effects to the environment.

Remade tote bags created

by our young designers will be featured at the Flame Tree Arts Festival event by turning the garbage back into art. Help save our earth and inspire the usage of reusable shopping bags!

For more information please contact Olivia Tenorio or Katie Graziano at BECQ, (670) 664-8500 or e-mail: olivetenorio81@gmail.com / k.graziano.becq@gmail.com.

The Coral Reef Initiative #SpeakForTheReefs Video Contest will be held for the whole month of April.

Participants should showcase their creativeness by making a 30-second YouTube video where you #SpeakForTheReefs. Submit your video links to Avra Heller or Jihan Buniag at BECQ or e-mail: avrahellerdeq@gmail.com / jihanbuniagbecq@gmail.com.

MINA also has Environmental Awareness Month activities set for April like Taya Plastic Tuesdays. Joeten Enterprises, in partnership with MINA, is encouraging customers to say "No!" to plastic bags and utilize their reusable

bags. Every Tuesday, Joeten will not distribute plastic bags and instead offer the option to use their own bags, provided boxes, paper bags for 10 cents, or to purchase reusable shopping bags for 99 cents.

As part of MINA's efforts to reduce plastic pollution, MINA volunteers will also be setting up learning stations on Thursdays at the Garapan Street Market throughout the month of April. Bring your old T-shirts and the team will teach you how to make old T-shirts into reusable bags. MINA encourages the community to refuse plastic bags at the checkout counter.

For more information, please contact Jolly Ann Cruz at minaoutreach@gmail.com or 233-7333 (REEF).

For more information on BECQ's activities for Environmental Awareness Month this April, contact EAM Chair Tehani Kirby-Joab or vice chair Robert Deleon Guerrero at (670) 664-8500 or e-mail: kirbyjoab@becq.gov.mp / robertdlguerrero@becq.gov.mp. (PR)

CNHA Policy Center to host review of draft Native Hawaiian Constitution

KAPOLEI, Hawaii—The Policy Center at Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement (CNHA), will host a forum to review the draft Native Hawaiian Constitution that resulted from last month's 'Aha organized by Na'i Aupuni.

The forum will be held on Saturday, April 9, 2016 from 9:30am to 12:30pm at the Honolulu Airport Conference Center, 7th Floor, Room #2 and will include lunch.

The Policy Center will review and breakdown the drafted document and discuss next steps, including the process of a ratification vote. Attendees can look forward to a thorough review of all the sections and in-depth discussion on the governance structure within the document to help anyone interested to better understand the content before the voting process for ratification begins.

"The process of developing the draft Native Hawaiian constitution prevailed due to the hard work and common dedication by 'aha participants toward progress for the Lāhui. The educational component is just as important, if not more important, and the CNHA Policy Center is prepared to work with those who are interested in participating to review the draft constitution," shares Michelle Kauhane, CNHA President and 'Aha participant.

Registration for this forum is \$25 and includes a lunch; limited seating is available. Parking validations will be available for a reduced rate of \$3.50. All who are inter-

ested in attending can register online through the Eventbrite link below or download a hard-copy form at CNHA's website, www.hawaiiancouncil.org, in the events section. SCHHA Homestead members on neighboring islands have available airfare scholarships to attend this event as a part of the SCHHA Summit. For inquiries related to the SCHHA membership please contact schha.associations@gmail.com.

For more information on this event or the Native Hawaiian Policy Center, email CNHA directly at policy@hawaiiancouncil.org or call (808) 596-8155.

Eventbrite Registration link: <https://cnhapolicycenterforum.eventbrite.com>

The policy center at the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement convenes non-governmental organizations around policy priorities and solutions to meet the challenges in Hawaiian communities. CNHA is a national network of Native Hawaiian Organizations, providing assistance in accessing capital and technical resources, and is a policy voice on issues important to Native Hawaiian communities. Its mission is to enhance the cultural, economic, political, and community development of Native Hawaiians. For more information about CNHA please contact us at 808.596.8155, toll-free at 1.800.709.2642, by e-mail at info@hawaiiancouncil.org, or at www.hawaiiancouncil.org. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Naval Base Guam's Fire Department started its Bears for Kids program with the receipt of 20 stuffed animals recently. Photos shows members of the fire department clutching teddy bears posing with Madison Spence, 8-year-old daughter of an active duty Coast Guard member, who helped jump-start the program.

Bears for Kids program gets 20 stuffed animals

SANTA RITA, Guam—Naval Base Guam's Fire Department received 20 stuffed animals to begin their Bears for Kids program.

The stuffed animals were donated as a gift to comfort children during ambulance transport to the hospital. Madison Spence, 8-year-old daughter of an active duty Coast Guard member stationed in Guam donated the stuffed animals. For her

birthday, she asked her family and friends for stuffed animals. Her donation is a direct result of her birthday wish.

Madison was first exposed to the Bears for Kids concept during a school field trip to the local fire department when her family lived in Sitka, Alaska. While talking with the EMTs in Sitka, she learned that people donated stuffed animals and the EMT's would give them to children who were

sick or injured and rode the ambulance. This significantly affected Madison; she had not experienced riding an ambulance but understood how scary that would be for her.

While on a recent trip with her Girl Scout troop, Madison asked the Naval Base Guam Fire Department about their Bears for Kids program. After learning that the fire department did not have a Bears for Kids program, she asked

her parents for permission to approach the fire department about the possibility of starting such a program on Guam. Madison asked and the fire department graciously agreed to oblige her request.

Madison is the daughter of Chief Warrant Officer David Spence and Mrs. Tami Spence. CWO Spence is assigned to U.S. Coast Guard Sector Guam as the unit's Engineering Officer. (PR)

Business skills workshops for leader farmers

The European Union-funded Training Support to the Sugar Industry project has rolled out a series of "Farming as a Business" workshops to enhance leader farmers business development and financial management capacities.

This follows the successful implementation of the leader farmer workshops last year, which were attended by over 260 participants and farm advisory officers from across the sugar belt areas of Fiji.

"An important aim of the project is to strengthen mill workers' and sugar cane farmers' knowledge and skills to enable them to be-

come more effective partners in the industry," says Ambassador Andrew Jacobs of the Delegation of the European Union for the Pacific.

"This aim has become even more important now in the context of post-Tropical Cyclone Winston as farmers devastated by its effects pursue new knowledge and skills to help them regain their livelihoods and re-build their lives as quickly as possible".

The first workshop was conducted on March 14-15, this year at the FSC Training Centre in Labasa and was attended by 18 leader farmers. The second workshop was conducted at



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Farming as a Business" workshops is set to be implemented by the Training Support to the Sugar Industry project.

Pioneering soil research for the Pacific

SUVA, Fiji—Pioneering scientific research to examine the value of organic farming over chemical agriculture for good soil health and climate resilience in the Pacific region will start in May.

Termed the "soil health trials," the research will actively engage farmers in Niue, Cook Islands and the Republic of Marshall Islands, with the results expected to benefit the entire region.

Led by Solomon Islander and soil scientist Dr. Shane Tutua, the research will develop the scientific evidence base supporting the push for organic farming for sustainable agriculture and climate resilience in the Pacific Islands.

The two-year soil trials are part of the Capacity Building for Resilience in Agriculture Project (CBRAP) coordinated by POETCom, within the Pacific Community (SPC), and funded by the International Fund for Agricultural Development.

"It's not enough to just say that organic farming is good for the Pacific Islands. We must provide the data to support it, to help inform decision making," SPC's Project Manager of POETCom, Stephen Hazelman, said.

"Good soil health is vital for sustainable, climate-resilient food production systems, and organic farming principles such as composting promote it," he added.

In participating in the research, farmers will be placed into two groups, organic farmers versus con-

ventional (chemical based) farmers.

The chemical based farmers are the control group and they will continue farming as usual with chemical inputs.

The second group will implement organic farming principles, such as composting over a period of one to two years.

Excited about the research, Dr. Tutua said reliable results could be obtained as early as six months into the trials, particularly for farmers who have already been carrying out organic farming for many years.

"Some farmers who will be applying organic principles will be doing so for the first time and we might need to wait for up to a year before we can obtain reliable results," Dr. Tutua said.

Farmers will utilize equipment like soil PH meters, soil moisture and infiltration meters to first establish a baseline of their soil health and to monitor it over the two-year period.

"In some cases, where equipment cannot be obtained we will improvise and come up with more practical techniques that farmers can apply," Dr. Tutua added.

"Farmers will also be given soil health cards to monitor their soil health over time.

"The trials give them the skills to develop their soil health beyond the life of the project as well as help build their knowledge on techniques for managing their soil well in terms of climate change adaptation."

Reports from the trials will be shared widely with Pacific Island countries and territories, support discussions around policy development for an ecosystem based approach to sustainable agriculture and help farmers make informed choices about farming systems they use. (PR)

Nodoga College on March 16-17. The next two workshops were held on March 21-22 at Seaqaqa College, Labasa and at the FSC Training Centre, Lautoka on March 23-24.

The Impact Partners (Fiji)/Fairtrade Coordination Unit (IPF/FCU) from the EU Coordination Unit is coordinating farmers to attend the workshops which are being delivered by Australia-Pacific Technical College (APTC).

IPF/FCU Fairtrade Relations and Development Coordinator and EU Coordination

Unit Technical Manager, Mohammed Habib said that these workshops equip farmers with basic finance and business planning skills which they can then distribute to other farmers after the training.

He said that the training is an example of appropriately targeted and successful extension services which will allow for improvements for sugar farming businesses.

Habib added that this will lead to increased incomes for farmers, and the industry as a whole.

IPF/FCU and the Fiji Sugar Corporation (FSC) introduced the leader farmer concept after having seen the impact of similar systems in other parts of the world, such as the farmer field concept widely used in Asia and Africa.

This model for extension development and advisory services has assisted in the upskilling and capacity building of farmers.

IPF/FCU and FSC established a network of leader farmers in each of Fiji's 23 sugarcane sectors to address

the need to pass on technical information (technology transfer). This new round of training provides business skills to compliment the farmer's technical skills.

Workshop facilitator and trainer, Kerri Leadbitter said that the second round of leader farmer training continues with a strong emphasis on the production of cane as well as supplementary crops (legumes, vegetables and fruits) and services associated with cane farming such as truck and tractor hiring. (PR)

Popular Youth@Work initiative expands to Niue

An innovative joint venture to address youth employment and create opportunities to develop meaningful career paths for Niuean youth has been announced by the Pacific Community (SPC), Crosspower New Zealand, and the Government of Niue.

Youth@Work will begin in Niue in April with clear objectives to build young people's skills, create vocational pathways, encourage internships and job placements, and develop stand-alone entrepreneurial businesses that can be run by students participating in the initiative.

Its expansion into Niue is made possible with generous support from The Queen's Young Leaders Programme in the United Kingdom.

There is solid Niuean Government policy support for addressing youth issues under the Niue National Youth Policy and Niue National Strategic Plan and a strong appetite across the country to improve youth opportunities.

Crosspower New Zealand will work in conjunction with Niue's national agencies,

schools, the local business community and volunteers to implement key aspects of the policy, and will partner with SPC to deliver a customized version of the successful Youth@Work initiative.

Niue's scale and location means it has unique youth unemployment issues, specifically in the area of youth "retention", and in motivating school leavers to find meaningful career paths and join the workforce to make a positive contribution to their island's future.

On behalf of the Government of Niue, the Secretary of Government, Richard Hipa, welcomed this youth empowerment partnership with Crosspower New Zealand and SPC.

"Young people in Niue are often unable to find employment in their desired field of training, due to a lack of opportunity. Youth@Work is based around mentoring, training, job placement and youth entrepreneurship and business start-ups, so we believe youth employment opportunities in Niue will be strengthened by

this partnership," Mr Hipa said.

Youth@Work has been successfully operating since 2012 in Solomon Islands and, in addition to Niue, SPC is leading its expansion to Vanuatu and shortly to Papua New Guinea.

"Youth@Work has become a success story for the region. We're committed to helping Niuean youth benefit from this wonderful initiative run by youth, for youth and with youth, so that they can meet their personal aspirations and participate in the development of Niue," the Director-General of the Pacific Community, Colin Tukuitonga, said.

The Chief Executive Officer of Crosspower New Zealand, Martin Enright, said "Crosspower has been operating in South Auckland for almost 25 years to engage our young people, provide a range of club activities that help to build their skills, fitness, self-confidence and awareness of their heritage and provide mentoring and social support. Increasingly we are also delivering employment and vocational pathways and opportunities.

"Many of our former attendees have achieved great successes and they inspire new generations of kids in some of our poorest communities who would otherwise lack opportunities because of poverty, difficult living circumstances, violence and the many easy temptations of life at the margins.

"As a result of our lengthy experience working with young people, and our close relationships with Pacific communities, we're delighted to be selected to assist SPC and support the Niuean Government to roll out a unique and customised Youth@Work programme in Niue," Enright said.

New technologies and innovative approaches will be used to create start-up businesses, Enright added.

This focus on youth follows a visit to Niue in November 2015 by the United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, Ahmed Alhendawi, to take part in a High-level Dialogue on youth during the Pacific Community Conference. (PR)

Business

A long wait: Fliers brace for big security lines at airports

NEW YORK (AP)—An expedited screening program called PreCheck was supposed to be the answer to mad-deningly long security lines at the airport. But four years after its launch, the Transportation Security Administration is far short of enrolling enough travelers to make a difference, spelling trouble for summer travel season.

Fliers can expect massive security lines across the country, with airlines already warning passengers to arrive at least two hours early or risk missing their flight.

The TSA cut its airport screener staff by 10 percent in the past three years, anticipating PreCheck would speed up the process. When not enough fliers enrolled, the agency tried to make up for that shortfall by randomly placing passengers into the express lanes. But it recently scaled back that effort for fear dangerous passengers were being let through. That's when the lines started growing, up to 90 minutes in some cases.

The TSA is shifting some resources to tackle lines at the nation's biggest airports, but



In this March 17, 2016, photo, travelers wait in line for security screening at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport in Seattle.

says there is no easy solution to the problem with a record number of fliers expected this summer.

"We had unacceptable line waits at the majority of our hubs," says Robert Isom, chief operating officer of American Airlines. "Based on what the TSA is telling us, there is no relief in sight."

Launched nationwide in 2012, PreCheck gives previously vetted passengers special screening. Shoes, belts and light jackets stay on. Laptops and liquids stay in bags. And these fliers go through standard metal detectors rather

than the explosive-detecting full-body scanners most pass through.

PreCheck lanes can screen 300 passengers an hour, twice that of standard lanes.

The TSA offered Congress a lofty goal of having 25 million fliers enrolled in the program. Based on that and other increased efficiencies, the TSA's front-line screeners were cut from 47,147 three years ago to 42,525 currently. At the same time, the number of annual fliers passing through checkpoints has grown from 643 million to more than 700 million.

Resolution in FBI-Apple case prolongs larger legal battle

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—The FBI's victory in breaking into a San Bernardino killer's iPhone without Apple's help merely prolongs a battle over how far the government can go to examine private messages, photos and other files.

"There's a clash of values and interests that I think will continue," said Ed Black, head of Computer and Communications Industry Association, a trade group whose members include Google, Facebook and Microsoft.

Federal prosecutors have appealed a court ruling that

said Apple doesn't have to help them extract data from another iPhone in a New York drug case. Speaking in general, the Justice Department said it will continue seeking digital evidence, "either with cooperation from relevant parties or through the court system when cooperation fails."

After finding its own way to access files on the San Bernardino iPhone, the Justice Department said it no longer needs a court order to force Apple to remove safeguards against guessing that iPhone's

passcode. That means Magistrate Sheri Pym won't be ruling on whether a centuries-old law, known as the All Writs Act, provided legal authority for compelling Apple's assistance.

Some in the tech industry worry that authorities will now try to pursue a smaller company—one without the financial and legal resources that Apple had—to win a favorable legal precedent that authorities could then use to pressure other firms—including heavyweights like Apple.

Car headlights are keeping drivers in the dark, study finds

WASHINGTON (AP)—Are your car's headlights keeping you in the dark?

The beams on most cars aren't doing a good job of helping drivers see down a dark road at night, according to rating of more than 30 mid-sized car models.

Only one model, the top trim level Toyota Prius V, earned a grade of good. Of the rest, about one-third were rated acceptable, one-third were marginal and one-third were poor.

The difference between the top- and bottom-rated models for a driver's ability to see down a dark road was sub-

stantial, according to the study released Wednesday by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, an industry-funded organization that evaluates automotive safety.

The LED headlights in the Prius V tested were able to illuminate a straight roadway sufficiently to see a pedestrian, bicyclist or obstacle up to 387 feet ahead. At that distance, the vehicle could be traveling up to 70 mph and still have time to stop.

But halogen headlights in the BMW 3 series, the worst-rated models, were able to illuminate only 128 feet ahead. At that dis-

tance, the vehicle couldn't be traveling at more than 35 mph and still have time to stop, according to the study.

That's important because of the more than 32,000 traffic deaths last year, about one-half occurred at night or during dawn and dusk when visibility is lower.

The reason for the big performance gap is that there's a lot more to how well headlights help drivers see than merely the brightness of the bulb or even what type of bulb is used, said David Zuby, the institute's executive vice president and chief researcher.

Nation

War on women? GOP silent as Trump sounds off on abortion

MADISON, Wis. (AP)—Frustrated Republicans grappled with new fears about Donald Trump's impact on their party Wednesday, as the billionaire businessman's campaign rivals targeted his punitive plan for fighting abortion and extraordinary defense of his campaign manager, who police say assaulted a female reporter.

Concern rippled through Republican circles nationwide, yet few dared criticize the GOP front-runner directly when pressed, leery of confronting the man who may well lead their election ticket in November.

Their silence underscored the deep worries plaguing

the party's leaders—particularly its most prominent women—who are growing increasingly concerned that a Trump presidential nomination could not only cost the 2016 election but also tarnish the party brand for a generation of women and young people.

"A nominee who cannot speak to women cannot win," New Hampshire party chairwoman Jennifer Horn said, though declining to rebuke Trump by name.

Trump added to his challenge when asked to explain his prescription to fight abortion, a subject that remains highly controversial decades after the Supreme

Court legalized it.

He told MSNBC during the taping of a town hall-style event in Wisconsin that abortions should be banned and, if they are, women who get them should receive "some form of punishment." That sparked an immediate backlash from both sides of the debate, and Trump's campaign quickly backtracked, releasing a statement that sought to take back his words. It said that only those who perform abortions would be "held legally responsible, not the woman."

"The woman is a victim in this case as is the life in her womb," the new Trump statement said.

No charges for 2 Minneapolis officers in fatal shooting

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Two white police officers involved in the fatal shooting of a black man last fall will not face criminal charges, a prosecutor announced Wednesday in a decision that drew outrage from community members who said the move showed the legal system is rigged against African-Americans.

Hennepin County Attorney Mike Freeman said his decision not to charge the officers in the death of 24-year-old Jamar Clark was based on forensic evidence

that showed Clark was not handcuffed, as claimed by some people who said they saw the shooting, and had attempted to grab an officer's weapon, which made them fear for their lives and justified use of deadly force.

Clark ignored warnings to take his hands off Mark Ringgenberg's gun before he was shot and told Ringgenberg and officer Dustin Schwarze: "I'm ready to die," the prosecutor said.

Freeman painstakingly described his decision, starting with police reports and wit-

nesses. Community members who attended the presentation said the prosecutor relied too heavily on police accounts and disregarded what others said they saw.

"This is a fairy tale. None of this happened," said Mel Reeves, an organizer for a group called Twin Cities Coalition 4 Justice 4 Jamar Clark. "It's not justice. It sends us a clear message that the police are above the law."

Police union head Bob Kroll said the public should accept the results of the investigation. He appealed for calm.



ACROSS THE NATION

Top aide to Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley resigns amid scandal

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP)—A top political aide to Alabama Gov. Robert Bentley resigned Wednesday, a week after he publicly admitted making inappropriate remarks to her but denied the two ever had an affair. Soon after, a GOP lawmaker said he planned to introduce a resolution to begin impeachment proceedings against the Republican governor. Rebekah Caldwell Mason announced her resignation in a statement sent by the governor's office, saying she would no longer serve as Bentley's senior political adviser and would no longer be paid by his campaign fund or work for a nonprofit formed to promote his agenda. "My only plans are to focus my full attention on my precious children and my husband who I love dearly. They are the most important

people in my life," she said.

9 hurt, damage reported after tornado touchdowns in Oklahoma

TULSA, Okla. (AP)—At least nine people were injured and authorities were evaluating the damage in northeastern Oklahoma after severe storms spawned multiple tornado touchdowns Wednesday night, authorities said. National Weather Service meteorologist Amy Jankowski said a tornado touched down and lifted up numerous times as it swept through the northern Tulsa and Owasso areas. The City of Tulsa said in a statement that several roads were closed and police and fire crews were canvassing the city. The Streets and Water Departments are assisting with road barricades and debris removal. Jankowski said the weather service received reports of lofted debris, trees down and

some structural damage.

Corrosion mystery solved, but Flint's struggles continue

FLINT, Mich. (AP)—Shortly before this poverty-stricken city began drawing its drinking water from a local river in a cost-cutting move nearly two years ago, officials huddled at the municipal water treatment plant, running through a checklist of final preparations. Mike Glasgow, a plant supervisor at the time, says he asked a state water quality official at the meeting how often his staffers would need to check the water for proper levels of phosphate, a chemical added to prevent lead corrosion from pipes. The official, Mike Prysby of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, replied, "You don't need to monitor phosphate because you're not required to add it" until after a year of testing, according to Glasgow.

Asia

Thai junta chief gives military broad new police-like powers

BANGKOK (AP)—Thailand's junta chief has given the military broad new police-like powers to arrest and detain criminal suspects, in an unannounced move that rights groups criticized Wednesday as a recipe for human rights violations.

The decree Prime Minister Prayuth Chan-ocha issued late Tuesday night comes amid a wider crackdown on civil liberties. Authorities the same day charged a woman with sedition for posting a Facebook photo of herself holding a red plastic bowl that was deemed too politically charged.

The order, published in Thailand's Royal Gazette under the title "Suppression of wrongdoings that could threaten Thai economy and society," gives soldiers in the army, navy and air force who are ranked sub-lieutenant and higher the power to summon, arrest and detain suspects in a wide range of

crimes for up to seven days.

The soldiers can act against people suspected in 27 different types of crime, including extortion, human trafficking, robbery, fraud, forgery, defamation, debt collection, gambling, child protection, prostitution, loan sharking and tour guide services. It says the soldiers are appointed "crime prevention and suppression officers" and anyone ranked below sub-lieutenant can act as their assistants.

Prayuth, the former army chief, invoked the powers under a law he enacted after leading a May 2014 coup that gives him as junta chief near-absolute authority without any accountability. The law, known as Article 44, allows Prayuth to take any measures deemed necessary to promote public order and unity. Rights groups say Article 44 is essentially martial law in all but name.

"There are people whose

behavior and wrongdoings are considered crimes. They threaten the country's economy and society," the order says. Deputy Prime Minister Prawit Wongsuwan was quoted by The Bangkok Post as saying that soldiers would also act as interrogators and were taking on the new role because there were not enough police to tackle crime.

Brad Adams, the Asia director of Human Rights Watch, called the move "a recipe for abuse, not greater peace and order."

"By erasing the line between the military and the police, Prime Minister Prayuth has further reinforced his dictatorship and guaranteed more blatant human rights abuses, increased numbers of civilians being tried in military courts, and further impunity for soldiers to do whatever they want whenever they want," he said.

Myanmar democracy takes momentous step with new president

NAYPYITAW, Myanmar (AP)—Myanmar's slow transition to democracy took a momentous step Wednesday as a trusted aide to ruling-party leader Aung San Suu Kyi took over as the country's president, officially ending more than 50 years of the military's control over government.

In a day full of ceremony and symbolism, Htin Kyaw was sworn in along with his two vice presidents and 18 Cabinet ministers. Suu Kyi, the Nobel Peace laureate and face of Myanmar's pro-democracy movement, takes on a prominent role as the country's new foreign minister and

the head of three other ministries—education, energy and the presidential office.

"The Union Parliament has elected me as president, which is a historic moment for this country," Htin Kyaw, 70, said in a speech after being sworn in. He pledged to work toward national reconciliation, strive for peace with warring ethnic rebels and improving the lives of Myanmar's 54 million people.

While it was a historic day for the impoverished Southeast Asian country, democracy remains incomplete. The military retains considerable power in the government and

parliament, and the president himself will play second fiddle to Suu Kyi. She cannot be president because of a constitutional manipulation engineered by the military, and has repeatedly said she will run the country from behind the scenes.

"I am very happy that we have a president who represents people," said Mar Thin, a 50-year-old street cleaner. She said she used to own 70 acres (28 hectares) of land that she and her sister inherited from their father before the military kicked them out and appropriated the land for the defense ministry.

and Seoul hold their annual Key Resolve and Foal Eagle military exercises. This year's drills, which are to continue through April, are not only bigger but also reportedly include for the first time training for precision strikes directed at the North's leadership and Kim Jong Un himself. In the eyes of North Korea's ruling regime, that is a bridge too far.

Bangladesh court seeks arrest of ex-PM Zia in bus attack

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)—A Bangladeshi court issued arrest warrants on Wednesday for former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia and 27

other opposition party leaders on accusations they instigated an arson attack on a passenger bus during an anti-government protest last year. Dhaka Metropolitan Sessions Judge Kamrul Hossain Mollah made the order after accepting charges pressed by detectives that Zia instigated the violence when she asked her supporters to enforce a blockade to remove the administration of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Defense lawyers argued the case was politically motivated and the accused were not involved in any violence during the three months of protests that paralyzed the country beginning in early January a year ago.

World

Haiti migrants no longer stranded on desolate border

ANSE-A-PITRES, Haiti (AP)—Forced out of the Dominican Republic, Anise Germain and her family pitched a flimsy tent of blankets and cardboard on a patch of rocky ground just across the border in Haiti. She feared they might never leave the camp.

Ten months later, things are looking up. Germain, her husband and three children have been relocated to a cinderblock shack in the nearby Haitian border town of Anse-a-Pitres. They lack running water and electricity, but they are no longer in a forlorn camp of Haitians and people of Haitian descent who have fled or were expelled in a Dominican crackdown on migrants.

"I think life will be better for us here," Germain said as she watched her youngest daughters play in the backyard with several banana and papaya trees and enough space for a small vegetable plot.

Their move comes amid efforts to cope with an influx of people from across the border setting up tent camps similar to those that aid



In this March 21, 2015 photo, Anise Germain holds her daughters Riguerlande, left, and Chrislove outside of her new subsidized rental home in the southeast Haitian town of Anse-a-Pitres.

groups and the government spent years trying to clear out after Haiti's devastating 2010 earthquake.

Within the next month, authorities hope to move nearly 2,400 people out of six encampments by providing subsidies for them to rent homes for a year in southeastern Haiti. The International Organization for Migration is coordinating the effort with \$2 million from a U.N. emergency fund.

"We're seeing that they move to houses for a year to give them enough time to

identify economic opportunities so they can support themselves," said Fabien Sambussy, the IOM's operations chief in Haiti.

The border camps, with clusters of makeshift shacks that bake in the sun and flood when it rains, are filled with destitute migrants who often speak a mix of Haitian Creole and Spanish. More than half are children, and health authorities feared that a growing number of cholera cases would turn into a more widespread outbreak.

Last 5 hostages on hijacked Egypt plane recall fear, photo

LARNACA, Cyprus (AP)—First the hijacker said the women could leave. All the children, too. Then the man in the suicide vest agreed that all Egyptians and others from Muslim backgrounds would be allowed to escape from the plane.

That left five Western men—at least one of whom thought they were about to die.

"We looked each other in the eyes and we said: Here we are. We're at the end of the line. It's over," recalled the Italian in the group, Andrea Banchetti, the day after an Egyptian man took control of a short EgyptAir flight to Cairo by donning a fake explosives belt and

diverting it across the Mediterranean to Cyprus.

Seif Eddin Mustafa, 59, was arrested by Cypriot police Tuesday without physically harming a soul. The final five from Britain, Italy and the Netherlands were ultimately released just like the others. A day later, passengers openly second-guessed themselves over whether they had been right to feel terrified, skeptical or somewhere in between.

"I was going out of my mind," said Banchetti, a 47-year-old mechanic from the Italian city of Genoa, recalling those confused, nerve-racking final minutes as the plane emptied with only the

five men kept on board. They had been singled out after the hijacker confiscated their European passports.

Not all expressed such open fears. The Dutchman on board, 56-year-old businessman Huub Helthuis, said when he talked to Mustafa once the plane had landed, the Egyptian replied in English: "Don't worry, nothing will happen." He eyed Mustafa's vest of mysterious pockets and tangled wires and wondered whether they were real.

"The bombs were fake," he recalled Wednesday in a telephone interview from Amsterdam, "but you couldn't know that."

Belgium premier's residence, office found on bomber's laptop

BRUSSELS (AP)—A laptop used by one of the Brussels bombers contained images of the Belgian prime minister's home and office, an official said Wednesday, heightening fears after last week's attacks on the airport and subway system.

A government official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because the investigation is ongoing, said that "it is alarming that they were apparently scouting the terrain" around the lush Royal Park where both his office,

"Le 16," and his Lambert residence are located.

Security around Prime Minister Charles Michel has increased since the Nov. 13 attacks in Paris and in Brussels last week. Michel also has had several unspecified death threats over the past years, the official said.

A laptop found near the hideout of the suspects of the March 22 airport bombing first gained notoriety because it contained a sort of will of suicide bomber Ibrahim El Bakraoui, in which

he spoke of being "in a haste" and "no longer know what to do."

The computer was also "full of stuff" on many locations around Brussels in information garnered from the Internet, said an official linked to the investigation.

The official, who asked not to be identified because the investigation is ongoing, said that at the moment there were "absolutely no" specific indications that Michel was under threat from the attackers.



ASIAN BRIEFS

North Korea, again, demands halt to US-South Korea war games

PYONGYANG, North Korea (AP)—It's a demand North Korea has been making for decades: The United States and South Korea must immediately suspend their annual military exercises if there is to be peace on the Korean Peninsula. And, once again, it's a demand that is falling on deaf ears. Following the North's recent nuclear test and rocket launch, this year's exercises are bigger than ever. In the Koreas, the cycle of tensions is as predictable as the changing of the seasons—they surge every spring, when Washington

Science & Technology

Apple remains in dark on how FBI hacked iPhone without help



In this Feb. 17, 2016 file photo, an iPhone is seen in Washington.

AP

WASHINGTON (AP)—The FBI's announcement that it mysteriously hacked into an iPhone is a public setback for Apple Inc., as consumers learned that they can't keep the government out of even an encrypted device that U.S. officials had claimed was impossible to crack. Apple, meanwhile, remains in the dark about how to restore the security of its flagship product.

The government said it was able to break into an iPhone used by a gunman in a mass shooting in California, but it didn't say how. That puzzled Apple software engineers—and outside experts—about how the FBI broke the digital locks on the phone without Apple's help. It also complicated Apple's job repairing flaws that jeopardize its software.

The Justice Department's announcement that it was dropping a legal fight to compel Apple to help it access the phone also took away any obvious legal avenues Apple might have used to learn how the FBI did it. Magistrate Judge Sheri Pym on Tuesday vacated her Feb. 16 order, which compelled Apple to assist the FBI in hacking their phone.

The Justice Department declined through a spokeswoman to comment Tuesday.

A few clues have emerged. A senior law enforcement official told The Associated Press that the FBI managed to defeat an Apple security feature that threatened to delete the phone's contents if the FBI failed to enter the correct passcode combination after 10 tries. That allowed the government to repeatedly

and continuously test passcodes in what's known as a brute-force attack until the right code is entered and the phone is unlocked.

It wasn't clear how the FBI dealt with a related Apple security feature that introduces increasing time delays between guesses. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because this person was not authorized to discuss the technique publicly.

FBI Director James Comey has said with those features removed, the FBI could break into the phone in 26 minutes.

The FBI hacked into the iPhone used by gunman Syed Farook, who died with his wife in a gun battle with police after they killed 14 people in December in San Bernardino. The iPhone, issued to Farook by his employer, the county health department, was found in a vehicle the day after the shooting.

The FBI is reviewing information from the iPhone, and it is unclear whether anything useful can be found.

Apple said that the legal case to force its cooperation "should never have been brought," and it promised to increase the security of its products. CEO Tim Cook has said the Cupertino-based company is constantly trying to improve security for its users. The company declined to comment more Tuesday.

The FBI's announcement—even without revealing precise details—that it had hacked the iPhone was at odds with the government's firm recommendations for nearly two decades that security researchers always work cooperatively and confidentially with soft-

ware manufacturers before revealing that a product might be susceptible to hackers.

The aim is to ensure that American consumers stay as safe online as possible and prevent premature disclosures that might damage a U.S. company or the economy.

As far back as 2002, the Homeland Security Department ran a working group that included leading technology industry executives to advise the president on how to keep confidential discoveries by independent researchers that a company's software could be hacked until it was already fixed. Even now, the Commerce Department has been trying to fine-tune those rules. The next meeting of a conference on the subject is April 8 in Chicago and it's unclear how the FBI's behavior in the current case might influence the government's fragile relationship with technology companies or researchers.

The industry's rules are not legally binding, but the government's top intelligence agency said in 2014 that such vulnerabilities should be reported to companies and the Obama administration put forward an interagency process to do so.

"When federal agencies discover a new vulnerability in commercial and open source software—a so-called 'zero day' vulnerability because the developers of the vulnerable software have had zero days to fix it—it is in the national interest to responsibly disclose the vulnerability rather than to hold it for an investigative or intelligence purpose," the Office of the Director of National Intelligence said in a statement in April 2014.

Off The Wall

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Thieves recorded stealing Easter eggs from California home

CHULA VISTA, Calif. (AP)—Police in Southern California are searching for a pair of thieves who stole Easter eggs meant for a toddler with Down syndrome from a family's front yard. Home surveillance video shows a man and woman passing by the home in Chula Vista on Easter Sunday and stopping to pick up several eggs. A neighbor had spread the eggs on the lawn while Janet and Michael Ford went to church. The Fords were looking forward to having their 2-year-old son, Gabriel, hunt for them later in the day. The video shows the thieves returning, accompanied by two kids, to pick up more eggs. Then the pair came back a third time and grabbed some holiday decorations. Police Lt. Fritz Reber tells the *San Diego Union-Tribune* that investigators are reviewing the recordings.

Cops seek owner of jewelry found in department store purse

ALTOONA, Pa. (AP)—Police are trying to figure out who owns some jewelry

found inside a new purse a woman purchased from a central Pennsylvania department store. Logan Township police Chief Tim Mercer says much of the jewelry was high quality and obviously "used" so police believe a woman may have purchased the handbag, began to stock it with belongings, then forgot about the jewels when she returned it. Whatever happened, the jewels were in the purse when another woman purchased it from the Boscov's store in Logan Town Center on March 12. The mall is near Altoona, about 85 miles east of Pittsburgh. Police say the woman who bought the purse discovered the jewels and turned them into police on Sunday. The jewelry includes rings, necklaces, bracelets and watches.

Miner to keep digging for gold despite \$12.5M casino win

ELKO, Nev. (AP)—Despite winning more than \$12.5 million at a casino, a Nevada miner plans to keep digging for gold. Efrén Aguirre tells the Elko Daily Free Press (<http://bit.ly/1ZLnsPg>) that he loves his job as rock breaker operator in a gold mine and doesn't intend to quit. The 64-year-old resident of Elko hit the jackpot on a slot

machine last week. Aguirre says he came to the U.S. from Mexico for "more money," but this wasn't what he expected. He has worked at Newmont Mining Corp.'s Leeville mine for 16 years. He says he decided to go to the casino after a shift on March 22. Aguirre says he and his wife of 44 years bought their dream house in Elko and will put away most of the remaining money for a rainy day.

Dog comes home with surprise for family: Bag of marijuana

LAUREL, Miss. (AP)—Officials say a family dog in Mississippi recently came home with more than a bone or toy to play fetch—the pup had a big bag of marijuana. The Jones County Sheriff's Office says in a statement that narcotics deputies were sent to the home Saturday to investigate the unusual incident. According to the statement, the homeowner told deputies that when his dog came home with the bag, he initially thought it was garbage. But he inspected it and found that it contained a leafy substance that smelled like marijuana. Authorities say they recovered about a pound of the drug. How or where the dog got the bag is not known.

In Celebration of Her new Life

† *Maria Masga Hocog Ramangmou*

Lovingly known as "Marian Yap"

August 28, 1946 - March 19, 2016

Her memories will forever live in the hearts of her
Husband: Thomas Telegueba Ramangmou "Tommy Yap"

Children and Families:

Gabriel H. Hocog
Salma and Abdul Samad
†Francis H. Ramangmou
Maureen R. and Pablo Vega Gonzales
†Frank H. Ramangmou
Fernando H. Ramangmou and Patricia Norita
Thomas Jr. and Vivian C. Ramangmou
Marie H. Ramangmou

Reared Children:

Larad R. and Jesus Agulto
Flocha and Lonisia Ramangmou
Frances Blanco
Oharu Blanco
Rufina Rogers

Brothers, Sister and In-Law:

†Jose M. and †Francesca C. Hocog
†Francisco M. and Rosa T. Hocog
†Gregorio M. Hocog
†Antonio M. and Consolacion Hocog
†Jesus M. and Maria F. Hocog
Rufina H. and Wayne Darbro
Luis and Lawis Yull

She is greatly missed by numerous nieces, nephews, relatives and friends.

Daily Mass of Intentions are being celebrated every morning at Our Lady Mt. Carmel Cathedral at 6:00am and nightly rosary is being recited at their residence in Susupe at 7:30 (Talaya Ave.)
Funeral Services will be held on Tuesday, April 05, 2016. Her remains will be escorted from Nuestra Senora dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 7:30 am to their residence in Susupe. Mass of Christian Burial will celebrated at Our Lady Mt. Carmel Cathedral at 2:00pm. Burial will take place at their residence in Susupe where she will be at a peaceful rest.

Please join us in prayers,

Thomas Ramangmou "Yap", Children and Families

Life & Style

Judge delays more questioning of Cosby in sex battery case

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Bill Cosby will not have to answer more questions under oath in a lawsuit from a woman who says the comedian forced her into a sex act at the Playboy Mansion, giving him time to resolve a separate criminal case, a judge ruled Wednesday.

A temporary delay in Cosby's sworn testimony will protect the comedian's rights as he faces sexual assault charges in Pennsylvania, Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Craig D. Karlan said. But his ruling will allow attorneys to conduct depositions of other potential witnesses in the California case, including Playboy founder Hugh Hefner.

The ruling comes in a sexual battery lawsuit by Riverside County resident Judy Huth, who accuses Cosby of forcing her to perform a sex act on him in a bedroom of the mansion around 1974 when she was 15.

Cosby gave his first sworn testimony in the case last year, but a judge has ordered him to answer additional questions from Huth's attorney, Gloria Allred.

Attorneys for Cosby sought a delay in the lawsuit amid the Pennsylvania case, which is



on hold while the 78-year-old appeals a ruling.

"The court recognized the dilemma faced by a defendant who must choose between defending civil litigation by providing testimony on one hand and losing the case by asserting the constitutional right to remain silent

on the other hand," Cosby attorney Monique Pressley wrote in a statement.

Karlan ruled that Huth also would not be required to give a deposition during the temporary delay. The judge said he is concerned about the case being put on hold indefinitely.

"I don't want this case to

be here three, four, five years from now. That's not justice," Karlan said.

Another Cosby attorney, Christopher Tayback, said the comedian is trying to resolve the Pennsylvania case quickly.

"My hope is in six months, he's exonerated," Tayback said.

^{AP}
In this Nov. 6, 2014 file photo, entertainer Bill Cosby gestures during an interview at the Smithsonian's National Museum of African Art, in Washington.

Cosby's former attorney has vehemently denied Huth's accusations, accusing her former lawyer of attempting to extort Cosby for \$250,000 before suing.

Allred mentioned Hefner's name as a potential witness after thanking the judge for allowing attorneys to seek additional evidence. Allred said she and her partner planned to take the depositions of other women who say they were abused by Cosby when they were underage.

Allred praised Wednesday's ruling, saying another woman who accused Cosby of sexual abuse already has given testimony. The woman has never been publicly identified, Allred said.

The attorney said she also plans to take the deposition of Renita Hill, a Pittsburgh-area woman who says Cosby molested her several times after they met on the TV show "Picture Pages" in 1983.

Hill claims the abuse spanned about four years, starting when she was 16. She said Cosby helped pay for her college tuition and would fly her to cities where he was performing until she cut off contact.

Hill sued the comedian for defamation, but the case was dismissed.

Dozens of women have accused Cosby of sexual abuse, but the statutes of limitations in most instances have passed.

A judge rejected a motion by Cosby's lawyers on Tuesday to dismiss a defamation lawsuit by model Janice Dickinson. Cosby's lawyers say they believe the case should be dismissed and are considering an appeal.

Who knew? 'The Walking Dead' is helping families connect

NEW YORK (AP)—Michelle Fiala says her 14-year-old daughter, Laura, is fine watching humans run for their lives from snarling, flesh-eating zombies on AMC's "The Walking Dead," but if one of the characters vomits, the teen has to look away.

"My youngest has a real thing about seeing people vomit," the St. Louis mom said in a recent interview. "She's got a real phobia about that. She's totally fine when they're stabbing zombies in the head or there's fake blood flying or the zombies are eating people, but when (a character) Denise leaned over and threw up ... she had to turn away. She couldn't handle that."

Fiala's 16-year-old daughter, Emma, also watches after the three discovered the hit series on Netflix about a month ago.

Humans battling a zombie apocalypse may not feel like family fare in the grand tradition of "The Ed Sullivan Show," "The Carol Burnett Show" or "American Idol," but the family has plenty of company.

Ericka Calcagno of Farmington Hills, Michigan, looks forward to watching the show

with her 12-year-old daughter, Gina, and son Jean-Luc, who is 9. She said her husband first introduced her to the series, and her kids were intrigued by their conversations about it.

"I was a little skeptical at first if it was too much but we watched the first season during the day. Since then we always

watch together and discuss it constantly."

They're spirited in their devotion and have even mastered makeup tricks to look like zombies (or "walkers" as they're called on the show).

Fiala and her kids are caught up to real time so they can enjoy the season six finale Sunday.



^{AP}
This March 29, 2016 photo released by Ericka Calcagno, center, shows her with her daughter Gina Binder, 12, left, and son Jean-Luc Binder, 9, wearing T-shirts from, "The Walking Dead," at their home in Farmington Hills, Mich.

"It's so outside of what would be my usual genre for television," said Fiala. "I came home from work one day and my kids were sitting on the couch watching like, 'You have to come watch this!' I was sucked in pretty immediately. You get sucked in by the characters. We have our favorites. It surprises me still that I'm that into it."

"The Walking Dead' is like the new 'Family Ties,' OK? It's tying families together," said actress and playwright Danai Gurira, who plays Michonne on the show. "The thing that's touched me the most is when I've met mothers of adolescent sons who say, 'This is how me and my son bond. It's because we both watch the show.' And you know those adolescent years are tricky years for parents and I was just so touched by that. I thought it was so beautiful that this show is functioning in that way."

At what age can kids handle the gore varies by family.

The violence doesn't bother Calcagno's kids. Instead, she says they hypothesize what they would do to survive if zombies were hot on their trail.

Open casting call for 'Hamilton' causes a little ruckus

NEW YORK (AP)—The Broadway smash "Hamilton," which has been cheered for reclaiming the nation's founding story by a multicultural cast, has oddly come under fire for specifically seeking "nonwhite men and women" for upcoming roles in future versions.

That went too far for the Actors' Equity Association union, which said Wednesday that the show's language was not official or in compliance with their rules.

The show responded by saying it regretted the confusion and will amend the notice to add that "we welcome people of all ethnicities to audition."

No such outcry was heard when the show was first being mounted, which called specifically for nonwhite actors to play the likes of Alexander Hamilton, George Washington, Aaron Burr, Thomas Jefferson and Eliza Hamilton. Only King George II was supposed to be filled by a white man.

"Hamilton" producers said such a stance adheres to the accepted practice that certain characteristics in certain roles constitute a legal and "bona fide occupational qualification." Other shows also cast with ethnicity in mind.

Since it opened off-Broadway last year, the show has

been celebrated for putting minorities at the center of America's birth. The show's African-American, Asian and Latino actors have been cheered by President Barack Obama, British actress Helen Mirren and many others.

The latest snag occurred when the show posted on its website a call for "nonwhite men and women, ages 20s to 30s, for Broadway and upcoming tours." Equity, which usually reviews casting notices, said it had not in this case.

"Our audition rules are created to provide the broadest access possible for our members to be seen for roles," the union said.

The show is by Lin-Manuel Miranda, who wrote the show's book, music and lyrics, and stars in the title role. It stresses the orphan, immigrant roots of Hamilton and has a terrifically varied score, ranging from pop ballads to gospel to sexy R&B. A Chicago production will open this fall and a national tour will travel to San Francisco and then Los Angeles in 2017.

"Hamilton" depicts the birth of our nation in a singular way," producer Jeffrey Seller said in a statement. "We will continue to cast the show with the same multicultural diversity that we have employed thus far."

A live telecast of Sorkin's 'A Few Good Men' set for NBC

NEW YORK (AP)—Emmy- and Oscar-winner Aaron Sorkin is bringing a live presentation of his drama "A Few Good Men" to NBC next year, the network announced Wednesday.

Sorkin, whose resume includes NBC's "The West Wing" and his Oscar-winning screenplay for "The Social Network," will adapt and produce "A Few Good Men," which premiered on Broadway in 1989 and three years later became a hit film

starring Tom Cruise and Jack Nicholson.

Set in 1986, the story centers on a military lawyer who is asked to defend three Marines on trial for murder.

Sorkin will write the teleplay and executive produce along with Craig Zadan and Neil Meron, who have jointly produced NBC's slate of recent live musicals.

Casting and an airdate in early 2017 will be announced later, the network said.

Puff Daddy to celebrate Notorious B.I.G with NYC concert

NEW YORK (AP)—Puff Daddy will celebrate the late Notorious B.I.G's birthday with a concert featuring Lil Kim, Faith Evans, Mary J. Blige and Jay Z.

The "One Night Only Bad Boy Family Reunion" concert will take place at the Barclays Center in Brooklyn, New York, on May 20. It's a day before what would have been Notorious B.I.G's 44th birthday.

Puff Daddy, whose real name is Sean Combs, is from New York City's Harlem neighborhood.

Notorious B.I.G, who was

from Brooklyn, died in 1997 at 24. He released multiplatinum albums and hit singles like "Hypnotize" and "One More Chance" on Combs' Bad Boy imprint. Others from that roster will perform at the upcoming concert, including Mase, 112, The Lox, Total, Mario Winans and current signee French Montana.

Tickets go on sale Saturday.



^{AP}
In this March 8, 1997 file photo, Notorious B.I.G., whose real name is Christopher Wallace, left, gestures as he and producer Sean "Diddy" Combs leave a party in Los Angeles.

Oliver Stone to get top award at Nantucket Film Festival

NANTUCKET, Mass. (AP)—Three-time Academy Award-winning director, screenwriter and producer Oliver Stone, whose movies on often controversial historical topics have

had widespread cultural impact, has been named recipient of the top award at this year's Nantucket Film Festival.

Stone is scheduled to receive the Screenwriters Trib-

ute Award at this year's festival scheduled for June 22-27.

He won a best writing Oscar in 1979 for "Midnight Express," and best director Oscars in 1987 for "Platoon" and in 1990 for "Born on the Fourth of July."

His current project is "Snowden," starring Joseph Gordon-Levitt as Edward Snowden, the man who leaked classified NSA documents.

Stone served in the Army in Vietnam and earned a Bronze Star.

Comedian and talk show host Seth Meyers is scheduled to host the awards ceremony.

^{AP}

In this April 17, 2013 file photo, director Oliver Stone answers a question at the Filmmakers' Roundtable and Luncheon at CinemaCon 2013 in Las Vegas.

TLC making drama by creator Tyler Perry

NEW YORK (AP)—Busy entertainment mogul Tyler Perry is producing a drama about a woman involved in a political sex scandal, the first scripted series that will air on the TLC network.

TLC said Wednesday that the eight-episode series, tentatively titled "Too Close to Home," will air this summer. The lead character is a successful woman from Washington forced to return to her modest beginnings after her affair with a married senator becomes public.

Perry's successful series on OWN, including "Love Thy Neighbor" and "For Better or Worse," helped turn around the Oprah Winfrey network. Now TLC, at a tough ratings time for cable TV, hopes he can work the same magic.



^{AP}

In this Jan. 15, 2016 file photo, Tyler Perry participates in a panel for "The Passion" at the Fox Winter TCA in Pasadena, Calif.

Legs pulled and tales told on year's most foolish day

DEAR READERS: I couldn't let April Fools' Day go by without featuring a few of the more colorful letters that have shown up in my mail recently:

DEAR ABBY: I'm getting ready to undergo my first-ever prostate exam. To be honest, I'm a bit nervous. What should I expect? Also, what's the dress code for something like this? I'm thinking about wearing nice slacks and a collared shirt.

The doctor has been patient and kind. He hasn't put any pressure on me. I want this to be special. I'm thinking about bringing a bottle of wine. After all, it's only the first time once. Advice?

UNTOUCHED FROM THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

DEAR UNTOUCHED: Your attire isn't as important as your attitude. Just relax and let the doctor "handle" things. As to the wine, I have it on good authority that a nice bottle of cabernet sauvignon goes well with a prostate exam if you drink enough beforehand.

DEAR ABBY: I recently got a wedding invitation in the mail. However, it was meant for the previous occupants who used to live here. My question is, would it be wrong for me to crash the wedding? After all, I DID receive the invitation. I won't make a fuss, and I'll only be there for the free food. -- LIKES GOOD DEALS IN MISSOURI

DEAR LIKES: Like so many others.

DEAR ABBY: My boyfriend won't stop asking me to marry him. The first time he proposed, we were in the mid-

dle of a fancy restaurant. It was very sweet. Naturally, I said yes.

He must have liked the way the restaurant patrons and staff applauded us. Since then, he has proposed to me at a basketball game, in a museum, at a crowded party and in five other restaurants. When I tell him to stop, he says he loves me so much and wants everyone to know.

What can I do about him? I feel he's turning me into a con artist. We're no better than those people who tell servers it's their birthday just to get a piece of cake.

ENGAGED IN DECEIT

DEAR ENGAGED: Your fiance appears to like repeat performances. Now cross your fingers and hope he feels the same way about the wedding night.

DEAR ABBY: I love it when my husband mows the lawn. He does it shirtless and in his cutoff jeans, and it really gets me going. I'm so turned on by his pasty white skin and beer belly, it's hard for me to control myself.

Unfortunately, he has the same effect on other women in the neighborhood. I see them peeking through their curtains, staring at him. One woman sits on her porch with binoculars, blatantly ogling my man.

What should I do? I considered telling my husband to remain fully clothed when he does yard work, but that punishes him far more than it does them.

HUFFY HOOSIER

DEAR HOOSIER: Silly girl. With a husband so mesmerizing, think of the money you could make selling tickets!

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR ABBY: My dog Fred watches your column religiously. I don't think he understands the written word, at least not completely. But he sure tries. He sits there and looks at it intently. Sometimes he slobbers over the horoscopes—he's a Pisces—but never on your column.

I read your column out loud to him, too. He always barks during the funny parts. He's the smartest dog I've ever seen. Abby, I just wanted you to know you have a four-legged fan out there.

ROSIE IN ROSWELL

DEAR ROSIE: I'm "aarf-ully" touched to know that Fred's a fan. Wishing you and Fred and all of my readers a Happy April Fools' Day.

LOVE, ABBY

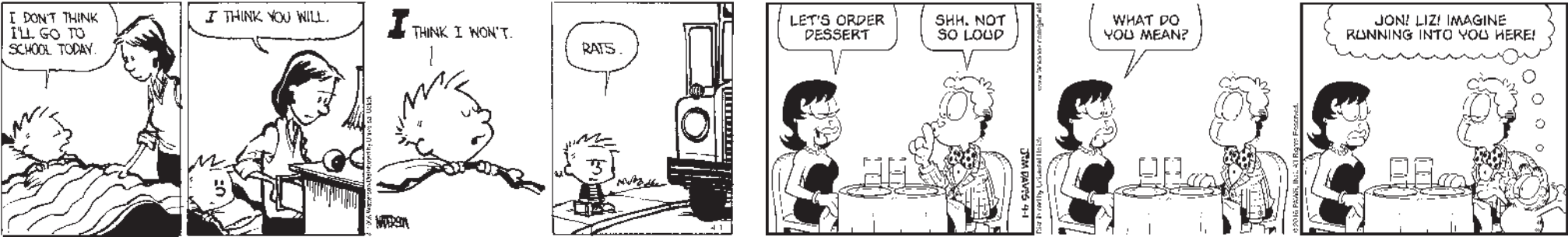
For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson Garfield®

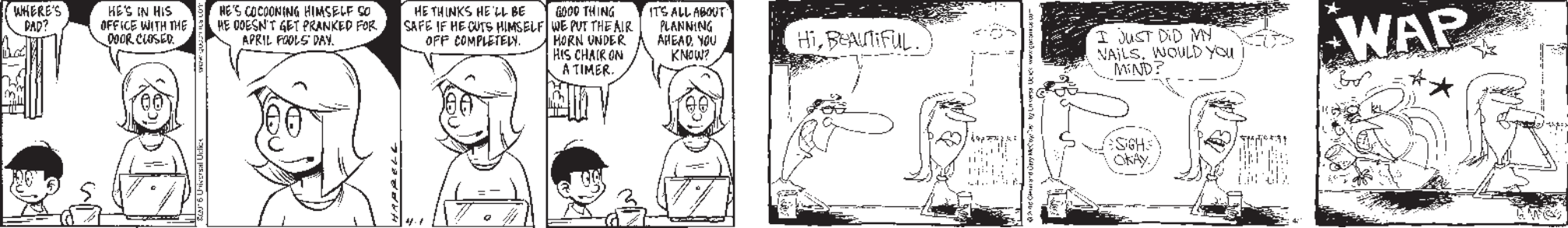
By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Pussy-cat's partner
4 Mideast gulf
8 Six-pack units
12 Wahine's gift
13 Big swig
14 "The Good Earth" heroine
15 Suave
17 "I never — man I didn't like"
18 Skater's leap
19 Man of morals?
20 Portals
22 Small pie
24 Ugandan despot
25 Comfy seat
29 Stickum
30 Utter disorder
31 — Dhabi
32 "The Jungle" author

DOWN

1 Ancient lines
2 Teeny
3 Booze, face-tiously
4 Choreographer de Mille
5 Two-way
6 Yale grad
7 "Fresh Air" ailer
8 "The Iceman —"
9 Pub potables
10 Peace-keeping org.
11 Cinch
16 Plow pullers
19 Story
20 Jokes
21 Mine, in Montreal
22 Characteristic
23 Latin love
25 Melville captain
26 Ant eater
27 "— to differ!"
28 Uncivil
30 Staff leader?
33 Data holders
34 Complaint
36 Trail user
37 Con job
38 "The Da Vinci —"
39 Latin 101 word
40 Hawaiian coast
42 Clothing protector
43 Tic-tac-toe win
44 "Rocks" piece
45 Joplin

Solution time: 26 mins.

Yesterday's answer 4-1

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:

Hillary Scott, 30; Taran Killam, 34; Susan Boyle, 55; Debbie Reynolds, 84.

Happy Birthday: Keep an open mind, but don't rely on others to tell you what's going on. Uncertainty is the enemy, and fact-finding is in your best interest. Don't leave anything to chance and you will stay ahead of anyone who is trying to outdo you. Be willing to accept the inevitable and make whatever you are faced with work in your favor. Your numbers are 9, 14, 23, 26, 30, 37, 41.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Don't fight the inevitable. Allow others to do as they please and opt to take the same liberties yourself. Don't waste energy on trivial matters when there is so much you can accomplish if you focus on your goals. ★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Welcome a challenge as if it is a testament to your abilities. You'll shine brightly and impress everyone around you with your aptitude and finesse. What you offer will lead to an unexpected opportunity that allows you to use your skills. ★★★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Don't be gullible when it comes to helping others. You can only do so much before you end up being taken for granted. Draw the line and don't let yourself be used. Enlightenment will come from self-awareness and personal change. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Listen to suggestions, but don't feel obligated to follow a path that doesn't suit you. Focus on improvements that will make you feel good

about yourself and give you the confidence required to do as you please. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You'll be raring to go and eager to bring about change. Your quick wit and physical energy will come in handy when it comes to sizing up a situation and doing what needs to be done in order rise to the top. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Put your money into a safe investment or a reasonable home improvement, but don't lend, borrow or jeopardize your financial security by taking risks. A steady gain should be your goal when it comes to health, wealth and happiness. ★★★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Make plans to get away. A day trip or making special plans to go somewhere with someone you love will give you a chance to relax and gain peace of mind. A decision you make will alter your living situation. ★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Use your imagination and you will come up with solutions that will help an organization or cause that concerns you. An opportunity to spend time with someone who brings out the best in you will lead to a romantic weekend. ★★★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You'll get blamed for something you didn't do if you hide evidence or aren't honest about something that has happened. Stick close to home and put your time and effort into improving your relationships with the people who believe in you. ★★★

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Expect to face a situation with a friend, relative or neighbor. Don't jeopardize your reputation by agreeing to something you don't want to do. Focus on your own plans and look for opportunities to maximize your chances of advancement. ★★★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Lay your cards on the table and discuss your moneymaking ideas with someone who can help you make your dreams come true. Listen attentively and you will be made aware of any pitfalls that could deter you from reaching your goal. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Look for alternative ways to expand your interests and drum up support. A learning curve is apparent and must be conquered before you will see any sort of returns for your effort. Romance will improve your personal life. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are progressive, animated and diverse. You are goal-oriented and competitive. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com. Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

				7	5	8				
				1		2				
						3	9	7		
	8								5	
3				6					9	
7								4		
9	5	1								
		4			3					
		2	5	1						

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 4/5/1

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	4	1	5	2	6	3	7	8
6	2	8	7	3	4	9	1	5
7	5	3	1	8	9	2	6	4
3	6	4	8	9	7	5	2	1
2	8	7	6	1	5	4	3	9
1	9	5	3	4	2	6	8	7
5	1	6	9	7	3	8	4	2
4	7	9	2	6	8	1	5	3
8	3	2	4	5	1	7	9	6

WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

HIP-REPLACEMENT SURGERY Solution: 9 letters

S Y C S G N I K C O T S Q N Y
I T A T N E M T A E R T U P T
S I R H F E P E G N A R A R S
O L T E T R L C U T S R L O A
R I I A N T A S P E E I I S L
C B L L O G N C T H R S T T P
E O A I I O T E T N I K Y H O
N M G N S H S H I U I P R E R
O C E G I N O U E T R O U S H
E B B A C K I S R N A E J I T
T A C E N O B A P G I P N S R
S L A C I S Y H P I I N I E A
O L N C I T S A L P T C G G D
Y R E V O C E R R U R A A E E
D I S C H A R G E X Y O L L A

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Alloy, Arthroplasty, Back, Ball, Bone, Canes, Cartilage, Cuts, Discharge, Fracture, Healing, Hip, Hospital, Implants, Incision, Injury, Joints, Leg, Metal, Mobility, Nurse, Osteonecrosis, Pain, Patient, Physical, Plastic, Prosthesis, Quality, Range, Recovery, Risk, Stockings, Strengthening, Surgical, Therapy, Treatment, X-ray
Yesterday's Answer: Mythology
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(2) Welder - Use hand-welding or flame-cutting equipment to lay out, fit, fabricate and weld or join metal components to assemble structural forms in flat, vertical or overhead position; to fill holes, indentations, or seams of fabricated metal products. Minimum 2 years of experience required.

(2) Electrician - Install, maintain, and repair electrical wiring, equipment, and fixtures, using hand tools and power tools. Ensure that work is in accordance with relevant codes. Tests electrical systems and continuity of circuits in electrical wiring, equipment and fixtures. Minimum 2 years of experience.

(3) Mason - Lay and bind building materials, such as brick, structural tile, concrete block, cinder block, glass block, and terra-cotta block, with mortar and other substances to construct or repair walls, partitions, arches, sewers, and other structures. Smooth and finish surfaces of poured concrete, such as floors, walks, sidewalks, roads, or curbs using a variety of hand and power tools. Minimum of 2 years' experience. E-mail resume to info@mangoresort.com. Contact Elly at (670) 989-3325 for more information. Blue Lagoon Realty Inc.

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WHATZIT Solution: The power behind the throne

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Spurs beat Pelicans, set record with 38-0 start at home



SAN ANTONIO (AP)—The San Antonio Spurs set the NBA record with their 38th straight home victory to open the season and matched the highest win total in franchise history.

And none of them cared.

Manu Ginobili scored 20 points and the Spurs beat the injury-depleted New Orleans Pelicans 100-92 on Wednesday night to win their 47th straight home game overall dating to last season.

"It doesn't mean anything," San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich said. "Absolutely nothing. Maybe a cup of coffee, maybe."

That's more than the rest of the Spurs would expect.

"It doesn't matter to me," San Antonio point guard Tony Parker said. "No. Championship (is all that matters)."

San Antonio topped the 37-0 start by the Chicago Bulls during their record 72-victory season in 1995-96. Golden State (67-7) has an existing 36-game home winning streak to open the season, giving the Warriors a chance to end up with the record or match it.

The Warriors and Spurs play twice in the coming two weeks, facing off on each other's home court with their home streaks possibly on the line.

The Spurs are 63-12, matching the franchise record for victories set in 2005-06.

Lakers 102, Heat 100

After all the drama of another miserable day for the Los Angeles Lakers, Julius Randle's graceful spin move for the winning basket was a splash of pure beauty.

These young Lakers make plenty of mistake—some more embarrassing than others.

They're also finishing a lousy season with reasons to be optimistic about their future.

Randle hit a tiebreaking hook shot in the paint with 1.9 seconds left in overtime, and the Lakers rallied late in a tumultuous day for a 102-100 victory over the Miami Heat on Wednesday night.

Warriors 103, Jazz 96

In Salt Lake City, Stephen Curry scored 31 points, including six straight in overtime, and the Golden State Warriors continued their historic run with a victory over the Utah Jazz on Wednesday night.

The Warriors (68-7) surpassed last season's victory total and can break the 1995-96 Chicago Bulls' record of 72-10 with five wins in their last seven games.

Golden State's Klay Thompson hit a tying 3-point-er with 15 seconds remaining



San Antonio Spurs forwards Kawhi Leonard, left, and Tim Duncan, right, defend New Orleans Pelicans center Omer Asik of Turkey in the first half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, March 30, 2016 in San Antonio.

Mavericks 91, Knicks 89

In Dallas, J.J. Barea scored 26 points and made the go-ahead layup with 49.9 seconds left, helping Dallas rally in the fourth quarter.

The Mavericks tied the Rockets for eighth place in the Western Conference.

Barea's basket put Dallas ahead 90-89 after the Mavericks trailed by seven with 8 minutes left.

Carmelo Anthony scored 31 points for New York and Derrick Williams added 15 in his third start of the season.

Bucks 105, Suns 94

In Milwaukee, Khris Middleton scored nine of his 26 points in the final 7:31, Jabari Parker added 21 points and Milwaukee stopped a five-game slide.

Milwaukee's reserves outscored Phoenix's backups 32-9. Phoenix has lost four straight and five of six.

Giannis Antetokounmpo had 10 points and six assists in the Bucks' first game since coach Jason Kidd announced Tuesday that the 6-foot-11 forward would play point guard in the 2016-17 season.

PJ Tucker had 20 points and 10 rebounds for Phoenix. Devin Booker scored 18 points, and Alex Len had 17 points and 15 rebounds.

in regulation after an offensive rebound and kick-out from Shaun Livingston after Thompson missed the previous attempt.

The Jazz (37-38) fell into a tie with Houston for the No. 7 slot in the Western Conference playoff race.

Curry had seven rebounds and four assists, while Thompson finished with 18 points.

Gordon Hayward led the Jazz with 21 points and Rodney Hood added 20.

Raptors 105, Hawks 97

In Toronto, DeMar DeRozan scored 26 points, Jonas Valanciunas added 19 points and nine rebounds, and Toronto earned its franchise-record 50th victory of the season.

DeRozan added six assists and five rebounds, while Kyle Lowry finished with 17 points, 11 assists and six rebounds as the Raptors (50-24) won for just the second time in five games.

Jeff Teague had 18 points for the Hawks (45-31), who had won four in a row. Tim Hardaway Jr. added 15 points and Paul Millsap had seven points and nine rebounds.

Nuggets 109, Grizzlies 105

In Memphis, Will Barton scored 25 points, Emmanuel Mudiay had 17 and the Nuggets beat the reeling Grizzlies.

Barton split a pair of free-throw attempts with 3.2 seconds left to help Denver hold on after Memphis pulled within three.

The Grizzlies (41-34) have lost four in a row. Their advantage over idle Portland for the fifth seed in the Western Conference is down to two games.

Zach Randolph led Mem-

phis with 26 points, while Jordan Farmar finished with 14.

Kings 120, Wizards 111

In Sacramento, DeMarcus Cousins had 29 points, 10 rebounds, five steals and four blocks, and the Kings hurt the Wizards' playoff hopes.

The Wizards dropped their second straight and fourth in five games, falling 3 1/2 games behind Indiana for the eighth and final playoff berth in the Eastern Conference.

Bradley Beal scored 24 points and Otto Porter had 20 for Washington. John Wall

contributed 14 points and 13 assists.

Rudy Gay and Omri Casspi scored 15 points apiece for the Kings, and Rajon Rondo had 15 points and 11 assists before he was ejected after getting a double technical in the closing seconds of the game.

Clippers 99, Timberwolves 79

In Minneapolis, Chris Paul had 20 points, 16 assists and eight rebounds, leading the Clippers to their fourth straight victory.

J.J. Redick scored 17 points for Los Angeles, and DeAndre

Jordan had 11 points, eight rebounds and three blocks. The Clippers held Minnesota to 34.5 percent shooting and only turned the ball over seven times.

Karl-Anthony Towns had 16 points and 11 rebounds for the Timberwolves, who have been humming along with one of the league's best offenses since the All-Star break until they hit the Clippers wall. Andrewiggins had just seven points and six turnovers and left the game midway through the third quarter with a lacerated chin.

Los Angeles never trailed and led by as many as 33 early in the fourth quarter.

Miller breaks wrist in Yankees' win over Braves



KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP)—The

Yankees' heralded bullpen depth could be tested early.

Andrew Miller broke his non-pitching wrist when struck on the right arm by a line drive in the seventh inning of New York's 2-0 win over the Atlanta Braves on Wednesday.

The left-hander threw his glove and walked into the Yankees' dugout after pinch-hitter Willians Astudillo's comebacker went off his arm, just above the wrist. X-rays were negative, but a CT scan revealed a chip fracture.

"He will see a hand specialist, who will determine the next course of action," New York said in a statement.

Miller was the Yankees' closer last year and was slated to fill that role while Aroldis Chapman serves a 30-game suspension under baseball's new domestic abuse policy. If Miller

is sidelined, Dellin Betances would open the season as closer.

Competing for the fifth spot in New York's rotation, Ivan Nova pitched six innings of two-hit ball. He struck out two and walked one.

"I did my part and they're going to make the decision," Nova said. "Remember, I'm not fighting against a guy with one year or two years. CC Sabathia has a lot of history. He's not an easy fight, but I did my part and hopefully I won the spot."

Julio Teheran, Atlanta's scheduled opening-day starter Monday against Washington, allowed four hits in five scoreless innings. The right-hander struck out two and walked none.

"I feel good about my whole spring. This was my last start and I feel ready for the season," Teheran said. "Everything is working now. I'm just trying to pitch like it's a regular game."

Back-to-back triples by

Dustin Fowler and Billy Fleming and a single by Austin Romine off Alexi Ogando accounted for the Yankees' runs in the eighth.

Aaron Hicks had three of New York's 10 hits.

Nova went 6-11 with a 5.07 ERA in 17 starts last season.

Teheran, who issued 73 walks in 200 2/3 innings last season, felt good about only walking two this spring.

"That's part of what I want to do," he said. "I want to be attacking hitters, even when I get behind in counts. That's something you want to get into before the season starts."

Yankees centerfielder Jacoby Ellsbury had the day off after playing three consecutive games after missing a week due to a bruised right wrist. He is scheduled to play in a split-squad game Thursday against Detroit. RHP Bryan Mitchell sprained his left big toe in the eighth inning and will have an MRI.

One of the complications in the Yankees' decision on a fifth starter is what to do with the loser of the competition.

"I really don't think any of them have really pitched out of the pen. Nova has a marginal amount of games," general manager Brian Cashman said. "If you ask him, it's completely foreign. If you ask CC it's foreign. Whoever is not going to be the fifth starter is going to be asked to do something they're not comfortable doing, period."

Girardi said he will check on RHP Masahiro Tanaka's bullpen session before naming a starter for Monday's season opener. RHP Michael Pineda is scheduled to face the St. Louis Cardinals on Thursday in Tampa, while RHP Nathan Eovaldi pitches a split-squad game against the Detroit Tigers in Lakeland. Bud Norris will make his final spring training start against the Baltimore Orioles in Sarasota on Thursday.

Klinsmann: US sent a clear message



United States' DeAndre Yedlin, top, heads the ball away from Guatemala's Stefano Cincotta during the first half of a World Cup qualifying soccer match Tuesday, March 29, 2016, in Columbus, Ohio.

GUATEMALA—The U.S. national team sent a “clear message” with its 4-0 CONCACAF World Cup qualifying win over Guatemala, according to coach Jurgen Klinsmann.

The U.S. moved up to second place in Group C in the fourth round thanks to first-half goals from Clint Dempsey and Geoff Cameron, as Graham Zusi and a late Jozy Altidore strike sealed a comfortable victory in Colum-

bus, Ohio, on Tuesday.

Klinsmann had been severely criticized following Friday's 2-0 away defeat to the same opposition but felt his side bounced back with a strong performance.

“[It was a] perfect way to respond to the disappointment from a couple of days ago,” he told reporters. “It's been a long couple of days analyzing that [defeat to Guatemala] and correcting it, but I must give many compliments to each

one of them for a very clear message. We are on top of the game and in the driving seat again.”

He added: “Obviously it is a long road to Russia, and to every World Cup, as we know. Here and there are setbacks and there is a moment that doesn't work out in the perfect way. I think we started well with the four points in the beginning, then obviously that game on Friday night caught us on the wrong foot, but there is a very good spirit in this group.”

“It is a team that starts to

melt [jell] more and more. Obviously we bring in some younger, some fresh players and they need to get integrated and this is happening one step at a time, sometimes a bit better and sometimes a step backwards.”

A major positive for Klinsmann was getting Christian Pulisic cap-tied. The 17-year-old Dortmund player came on for a cameo appearance in the 81st minute with his team holding a three-goal lead.

“Our wish was to get Christian Pulisic on the field and part of our future,” Klinsmann

said. “I think he's come on for a few minutes and you've seen the talent that he has.”

“It's a long way to the World Cup and our job as coaches is to help these players in their path, in their development. Sometimes it goes well, like tonight where it goes perfectly. And sometimes you have a little knock, like we did a couple of days ago. But we are on track. Now we put this to one side because we are hungry and excited for the Copa America.”

Meanwhile, the U.S. will host exhibition games against Ecuador and Bolivia ahead of the Copa America Centenario

and scheduled its home World Cup qualifier against Trinidad and Tobago in Jacksonville, Florida.

The U.S. Soccer Federation announced Tuesday that the Americans will meet Ecuador on May 25 at Frisco, Texas. They will play Bolivia three days later in Kansas City, Kansas.

At the Copa America, the Americans open against Colombia on June 3 in Santa Clara, California, play Costa Rica four days later in Chicago and close the first round against Paraguay on June 11 in Philadelphia.

The World Cup qualifier will be Sept. 6, four days after the Americans play a qualifier in St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Houston: Last step for Spieth before defending Masters crown

HOUSTON (AP)—Jordan Spieth is so excited about returning to Augusta National next week to defend his Masters championship that just thinking about it makes him feel like doing pushups.

First things first. Spieth believes a strong showing in the Shell Houston Open, which starts Thursday, could have a significant impact on how well he plays in this season's first major championship. It certainly did last year.

“A win here would obviously be the goal, to get as much momentum as possible,” he said. “I drew a lot on this week last year. It certainly kept the momentum alive (and led to) coming out on top.”

Spieth had a playoff victory and a runner-up finish before Houston a year ago, then took the 54-hole lead here last spring before losing in a three-way playoff, in which he secured a spot by sinking a nearly 12-foot putt on the final hole, calling it “a nice

putt to have hit going into a major.”

Although he didn't win—J. B. Holmes prevailed over Spieth and Johnson Wagner—he took plenty of confidence with him to Georgia. The end result there was a record-tying 18-under-par 270 and an easy four-stroke victory. At 21, Spieth became the youngest start-to-finish leader since Walter Hagen in 1914, and the first four-day front-runner in Augusta since Raymond Floyd in 1976. He also broke the Masters record for birdies, and at one point was the first player to reach 19 under-par.

That success carried over to the U.S. Open, which he also won to get halfway to golf's Grand Slam.

But that was last year, Spieth was quick to remind everyone at a news conference Wednesday. While looking forward to hosting the Cham-

pion's Dinner on Tuesday in Augusta, where he'll serve Texas barbeque, he said, “I won't be celebrating whatsoever. The week is solely about the 2016 Masters to me.”

He knows defending his title will be a tall order with a deep field of contenders who have been playing better than Spieth has in recent weeks. The Texan hasn't won a tournament this season since January and lost his world No. 1 ranking to Jason Day when Day won the Match Play in Austin after Spieth was knocked out in the round of 16.

Day, who isn't playing at Houston, will be coming off back-to-back PGA Tour titles, giving him six wins since July 2015, when he tees off at the Masters. Spieth said of Day's taking over the top spot, “He certainly deserves that position right now. It's really in-

credible what Jason can do when he finds his confidence in his game.”

Besides Spieth, who's now ranked second, five others among the top 11 in the world are in the Houston field: Rickie Fowler (5), Henrik Stenson (7), Patrick Reed (10) and Louis Oosthuizen (11). The tournament's last five champions are entered, too, including Phil Mickelson, whose victory here in 2011 is among his 42 career PGA Tour titles.

Mickelson is one of five former Masters champions who will play the 7,441-yard, par-72 course that features both lakes and wetlands and has been set up in many ways to replicate conditions at Augusta National. Of the 144 players in the Houston field, at least 33 are going on to the Masters.

And a 34th could join them with a victory Sunday. Wagner in 2008 and Matt Jones in 2014 qualified in the last opportunity by winning Houston.



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Rio Olympic torch is target for protesters

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP)—Brazil's former head of public security expects protesters to target the torch relay for the Rio de Janeiro Olympics.

The relay around Brazil kicks off May 3 in the capital Brasilia. Colonel Jose Vicente da Silva told The Associated Press that the impeachment process against President Dilma Rousseff and the countless problems surrounding South America's first Olympics make the torch a convenient symbol of discontent.

"Wherever the torch goes, there will be a camera on it," Silva said. "There will be banners for or against President Rousseff. There is a chance of big protests during the torch relay."

Brazil is buried in its deepest recession since the 1930s, made worse by numerous graft and corruption investigations that have touched many of Brazil's most powerful politicians—from Rousseff to Rio de Janeiro Mayor Eduardo Paes, who has been the main force behind the Olympics.

"The Olympics as a whole are a big stage with a lot of spotlights," Silva said. "Everyone in the world will be



In this July 3, 2015, file photo, Brazil's President Dilma Rousseff looks at the Olympic Torch as it's presented during a ceremony ahead of the 2016 Rio Olympic Games in Brasilia, Brazil. The former head of national public security in Brazil expects the Olympic torch relay to be targeted by protests. The relay around Brazil kicks off May 3 in the capital Brasilia.

Coca-Cola, which is also a FIFA sponsor, got caught up in protests in Brazil during the 2013 Confederations Cup. At one point, it was forced to cover a giant Coca-Cola bottle in front the Maracana Stadium, hiding it from the view of cameras.

In 2008, the IOC and Beijing organizers conducted an international torch relay that traveled around globe to celebrate China's first games. It was targeted by violent anti-China and pro-Tibet protests, prompting the IOC to do away permanently with the international portion of the relay.

Nike, which is not an Olympic sponsor, last month canceled the presentation of a

new strip for Brazil's national soccer team. This came a day after protests against Rousseff's choice of former President Luis Inacio Lula da Silva as her chief of staff.

While protests are expected against the torch, at least one activist group—The Popular Committee—is planning alternate events just days before the games open.

Committee member Orlando Santos said "The Exclusion Games" would be staged in downtown Rio, far from the Olympic Park in suburban Rio.

"There will be too much security around the Olympic Park, and there will not be space for us," Santos said.

The group also staged a "Poverty Torch Relay" several days ago, highlighting the fate of 77,000 people that Rio's city hall says have faced forced eviction since Rio was awarded the games in 2009.

The activist group contends that the Rio Olympics will benefit only real estate and construction interests, leaving ordinary citizens with few advantages and most of the costs.



watching and that stimulates opportunism."

The relay visits 329 cities and towns, ending in Rio's Maracana Stadium at the opening ceremony on Aug. 5. Organizers say it will reach 90 percent of Brazil's 200 million people, with 12,000 torchbearers carrying the flame.

"To make it even more complicated, the relay will begin in Brasilia—home to all

politicians," Silva said.

Rousseff is fighting impeachment charges and could be out of office when the relay starts. She could also be out of office when the games begin, raising questions about who will officially declare the Olympics "open", with International Olympic Committee President Thomas Bach standing alongside.

The lighting of the Olympic

flame will take place April 21 in the Greek city of Olympia, before the torch is handed over in Athens for the trip to Brazil.

The relay is backed by several top Olympic sponsors including Coca-Cola, which is believed to pay about \$100 million for its sponsorship deal with the IOC.

Asked by AP about possible protests, Coca-Cola declined to comment in an email.

Aquathlon and Pathway 5K/10K Run this Saturday

Triathlon Association of the CNMI will have its initial offering for the 2016 this Saturday with the staging of the Aquathlon and Pathway 5K/10K Run.

The races will start and end at Kilili Beach with the event beginning at 6am. Registration

is only \$10 and can be done on race day or online via the group's Facebook page [NANGU.BISIKLE-TA.FALAGU.SPN](#).

Runners doing the 5K race will go as far Beach Road across the the Hardt Eye



Clinic in Quartermaster, while the 10K participants will turn around at Bank of Guam.

For the run part of the aquathlon, the turnaround point is across the Saipan Mayor's Office. The

swim leg in the waters off Kilili Beach will cover two distances—2.5K and 1K.

Medals and other prizes await the Top 3 men's and women's finishers in each age group. Participants can register in the U19 division, 20 to 29, 30 to 39, 40 to 49, and over 50. **(PR)**

YANKEES

From Page 32

and Gary Cruz made an RBI single in the sixth.

The Yankees were shut down in the seventh, but came out swinging in the eighth with Tomokane knocking in a two-run double. Tomokane also made it home off the Blue Jays' boo-boo and the Yankees tallied one more run off their foes'

error for a 9-0 spread.

Tomokane was not done yet, as he added an RBI triple in the last inning, while Cruz registered an RBI double to finish off the hapless Blue Jays.

The third baseman Tomokane ended up going 4-for-6 at bat with four RBIs and two runs, while Nakamura was 5-for-6 and although he had no RBIs, he contributed four runs. Kapileo was 2-for-3,

while Ben Leon Guerrero hit 3-for-5 with three runs.

Overall, the Yankees were 14-for-44, while the Blue Jays had a dismal 4-for-33 showing at the plate.

The Blue Jays struggled against the Yankees pitchers that the former only reached third base once. David Anthony went to as far as third after his double, but was left stranded along with two other runners when Lieto struck out

James Benavente for the third out at the bottom of the fifth.

The Blue Jays also had a good chance to light up the board in the last inning with Ben Flores on second and Anthony Muna on first with two outs, but Jebehn Arthur grounded out at first.

Meanwhile, two more teams will have their season-opening game tonight as Hawaiian Rock North Starz takes on Art Man Titanium at 6pm.

VILLAGOMEZ

From Page 32

Sato and Princess Alcantara, also of Kanoa, are tied for third with eight each. Rounding out the Top 10 are Matansa's Lyka Sally (six), MP United's Rei Sekiguchi (five), Kanoa's Toremy Diaz (five), Matansa's Sunny Woo (five), and Kanoa's Kristelle Itaas (four) and Britany Wally (four).

In the boys U17 division, Matansa's Jun Sik Kim collected nine to lead teammate Evan Belcher (4), MP United's Sunjoon Tenorio (three), Tan Holdings' Alan Hinson (three), Matansa's

Joshua De Leon (three), MP United's Keanu Diaz (three) and Hyun Jun Chung (three), and Matansa's Jamesbonie Valdez (two).

In the boys U14 division, Paire's Kaden Church and Matansa's Justin Achas are in a close race with the former having 13 against the latter's 10. MP United's Rintaro Miyawaki and Rei Sekiguchi, Tan Holdings' Mark Esalan, and Kanoa's Ian Karl Maniago are still in contention with nine each. Tan Holdings' Taka Borja (seven), MP United's Oliver Lee (seven), Matansa's Iverson Santos (6), Kanoa's Sebastien Manabat (six), and

MP United's Ye Seong Cho (six) complete the Top 10.

In the boys U12 division, Miyawaki is likely to run away with the Golden Boot award with his 20 in six games. He scored in all of MP United's matches, posting his most (six) in their 11-1 demolition of Paire in the season-opening game last Feb. 13.

Three more MP United players are ranked second to fourth with Dylan Kim getting eight, Rohan Basnet having seven, and Andrew Chung logging 6. Tan Holdings' Anthony Bergancia also has six goals to make it to the Top 5, while his teammate Angelo

Pulido and Kanoa's Merrick Toves and Brian Lubao have five apiece.

In the U12 team standings, MPU has the most goals so far with 49 and also holds the best record at 5-0-1 (win-draw-loss). Kanoa owns a 4-0-2 mark, while Tan Holdings and Paire have 2-0-4 and 1-0-5 slates, respectively.

In the boys U14, MP United is ahead, too both in the team standings (5-0-1) and goals scored (37), while Kanoa is on top of the girls U15 with its 4-0-1 card and 39 goals. Matansa enjoys the top view in the boys U17 with its 4-0-1 slate and 22 goals.

OL'ACES

From Page 32

that sealed the win for his team. Markel Toves registered the two other points for Rollers Red. Muna finished with a team-high eight points, the same output Tony Deleon Guerrero contributed to Rollers Red's cause. Greg Sablan had nine for the Warriors.

In the Wong-Junior Sonics tiff, the former canned three free throws in the homestretch

to pull off the close win, Deether Edralin drilled two charities, while Kane Ybanez had a split.

Before Edralin and Ybanez's charities, Wong leaned on the string of baskets by Rikko Saralu and Troy Ngirarois to keep up with the Junior Sonics. Saralu top-scored for Wong with his 17 points, while Ngirarois added 13, logging eight straight early in the second half. Saralu had seven successive markers midway in the second frame.

TRIPLE J

From Page 31

Dan Dan Middle School, Eucon, Garapan Elementary School, Grace Christian Academy, Gregory T. Camacho Elementary School, Hopwood Junior High School, Kagman Elementary School, Kagman High School, Koblerville Elementary School, Marianas Baptist Academy, Marianas High School, Mount Carmel School, Oleai Elementary School, Saipan Community School, Saipan International School, Saipan Southern High School, San Vicente Elementary School, Seventh Day Adventist School, Tanapag Junior High School, and William S. Reyes Elementary School.

"The more kids we have, the better," says Activities manager Dion Camacho. "And you know they enjoy it because their smiles are easy to see when they're covered in color!"

Registration for the event opens at 6:30am and the race starts at 7:30am. The 5KM course will start and finish at PIC Saipan and will feature five different coloring stations along the Beach Road route. Participants are encouraged to wear white attire so the full effect of the coloring stations can be seen post-race. Volunteers will be celebrating each runner's arrival by greeting them with "holi powder," a biodegradable mixture of corn starch and food coloring.

Registration fee is only \$10 and entry forms are available at Triple J Motors on Beach Road, the PIC lobby, Gold's Gym, Boarderline and the Marianas Visitors Authority. All completed entry forms must be turned in to the PIC front desk.

For more information, please contact Ichihara at 237-5147 or visit PIC website www.picresorts.com/saipan/. **(PR)**

Ol'Aces romp past McDonald's, 17-7

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Ol'Aces made short work of McDonald's, taking a 17-7 win in five innings in their Majors division game in the 2016 Saipan Little League Baseball last Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

The Ol'Aces earned the victory one inning earlier after pulling away at the top of the fourth. The winning squad hauled nine runs in the pivotal fourth, turning a 6-4 lead to a 15-4 spread. Ohane Borja batted twice and scored a three-run triple in his second at bat after reaching home in the first off a McDonald's error, while Lufo Babauta also stepped into the plate on two occasions in one inning and scored two RBIs. Ken Kaipat added an RBI single in that run, while the Ol'Aces got the rest off McDonald's miscues.

Now facing a double-digit deficit, McDonald's was pressed to collect runs to remain in contention, but mastered only three off LJ. Reyes' RBI double, Ton Acosta's RBI single, and Joel Deleon Guerrero's run from the Ol'Aces' booboo at the bottom fourth.

At the top of the fifth, the Ol'Aces added two more runs to bring the lead back to double figures with Andrei Macaranas and Latrel Deleon Guerrero making it home off McDonald's errors.

The scores remained at the bottom of the fifth and the Ol'Aces took the early victory, as Kaipat, who closed out for the winning squad, struck out McDonald's first three batters.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

An Ol'Aces player waits for the pitch during their game against McDonald's in the Majors division of the SLLB last Saturday at the Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

Borja and Babauta led the Ol'Aces win, as the former went 4-for-4 at bat with four RBIs and the latter hit 3-for-4 and recorded three RBIs. Babauta had an RBI single in the first inning to lift the Ol'Aces to a 4-0 advantage. Nathan Aizon had



the same feat for the Ol'Aces' second run, while Macaranas blasted an RBI triple, and Babauta reached off a McDonald's miscue. Meanwhile, Best Sunshine International turned in the \$800 donation to the As Matuis Twins in support of the team's par-

ticipation in the SLLB this season.

BSI corporate social responsibility directors Rita Chong

and Geri Dela Cruz handed the ceremonial check to Twins manager Chel Castro and official Valerie Marquez. The two

Twins representatives thanked BSI for its big help in ensuring that kids will have the opportunity to play in SLLB.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

As Matuis Twins manager Chel Castro, third left, and team official Valerie Marquez, second left, receive the ceremonial check donation from BSI corporate social responsibility directors Rita Chong, right, and Geri Dela Cruz, left, during the turnover ceremony last Wednesday.

Lizama stands out in Big League

By **ROSELYN B. MONROYO**
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REPORTER

The Braves' Franklin Lizama leads three categories in the ongoing Big League competition in the 2016 Saipan Little League Baseball.

The Braves slugger is on top of the batting race with his .572 average after going 8-for-14. He is ahead of three Islanders batters and another Braves player in the Top 5. The Islanders' Henry Lizama went 6-for-12 for the second best .500 batting average, while teammate Jerald Cabrera is ranked third with his 6-for-13 and .462 average. The Braves Barry Sunumai

and Islanders' Jhace Palacios rounded out the Top 5 after registering averages of .455 (5-for-11) and .417 (5-for-12), respectively.

Three Braves players are in the No. 6 to No. 8 spot with J.J. Lifofoi posting .357 (5-for-14), Ian Norita tallying .333 (4-for-12), and Darion Jones logging .308 (4-for-13). The Islanders' Craig Aguon (.300/3-for-10) and the Braves' A.J. Evangelista (.286/4-for-14) complete the field. The Top 10 batters were based on 10 or more at bats.

Besides enjoying the lead in the batting race, Franklin Lizama is also the pacesetter in the runs and doubles

categories with his six and three, respectively. He leads Lifofoi (5), Palacios (4), and Henry Lizama (4) in the runs.

In triples, Jones has two and four players are tied with one apiece, while Palacios is the only player to make a homerun so far.

In the pitching race, the Islanders' Nate Camacho pitched nine innings and gave up no runs for a 0.00 ERA to lead Jones, who allowed only one run in 12 innings pitch for a 0.58 ERA.

Camacho also has the most strikeouts so far with 13, followed by Palacios and Yankees' Peyton Lizama, who have 9 and 8, respectively.

More than 1,000 runners, walkers, joggers and strollers will hit the streets of San Antonio on April 9 to raise funds for the Northern Marianas Chapter of the American Red Cross during the 3rd Annual Pacific Islands Club Saipan Hafa Adai 5K.

PIC has organized the race since its inception in 2014; however, the Hafa Adai 5K would not be possible without an outpouring of support from the public and private sectors.

Triple J Motors has a long history of supporting events throughout the Marianas and general manager Randy Steele said his company renewed its partnership with PIC as the Hafa Adai 5K's title sponsor to continue the tradition of community involvement.

"We are happy to be the returning sponsors for the Hafa Adai 5K. We know the runners who come out each year to support this annual run want to be happy, healthy, and make

Triple J returns as title sponsor of Hafa Adai 5K



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Pacific Islands Club's Glenn Policare, center, receives the ceremonial check donation for the PIC Saipan Hafa Adai 5K from Triple J employees yesterday in Beach Road, Garapan.

a difference," Steele said. "Through this partnership with PIC, we're able to offer

them exactly what they want: a way to engage with our local community and make an im-

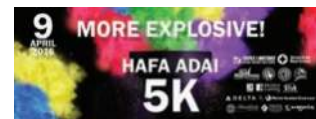
pact long after they cross the finish line."

Since its inception, the

PIC Hafa Adai 5K has raised \$16,000 for local non-profit groups. Last year, the event raised \$10,000 for the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. This year, race proceeds will benefit the Northern Mariana Islands Chapter of the American Red Cross.

PIC Sports, Entertainment and Activities director Glenn Policare launched the PIC Hafa Adai 5K in 2014 as a way to promote physical activity and raise funds for local organizations. The race has since become one of PIC Saipan's signature events.

While the Red Cross may be this year's beneficiary, PIC has pledged an additional \$1,500.00 in sporting equipment to be distributed to three local schools. According to event director Keoni Ichihara the elementary, middle, and



high schools with the most paid participants in the PIC Hafa Adai 5K will take home the top prize.

"The kids really turn out for our annual students-only dodgeball tournament each fall," Ichihara said, "but the PIC Hafa Adai 5K allows each and every student on Saipan to step up and represent their school."

The elementary (grades 1-5), junior high/middle schools (grades 6-8) and high schools (grades 9-12) which have the most paid entries into the Hafa Adai 5K will earn their respective school some brand new sporting equipment. To date, more than 20 schools have registered participants into the 5K, including Agape Christian School,

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Spurs beat Pelicans, set record with 38-0 start at home

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Yankees shut down Blue Jays

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Peter Lieto towed the Saipan Steve-dore Yankees to an 11-0 win over the Blue Jays in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League last Wednesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.



The proud product of Saipan Little League Baseball worked the mound in five innings and played steady, giving up only two hits and no runs to help the Yankees prevail in their

season-debut. Lieto also recorded 11 strikeouts in his first game of the season before being relieved by Peter Tenorio, who picked up where the former left off to silence the Blue Jays in three innings. Franco Flores closed out for the Yankees.

The Yankees were also quiet in the first two innings before finding their form in the next four and finishing strong in the last two to earn the convincing win.

Peter Tomokane had an RBI single in the third inning, while Harry Nakamura reached off a Blue Jays' error for a 2-0 lead. The Yankees then added one run apiece in the fourth to sixth inning to widen the gap, 5-0. Nakamura got his second run in the fourth off another Blue Jays' miscue, while Charles McDonald's had an RBI walk in the fifth,

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Yankees starting pitcher Peter Lieto warms up for their game against the Blue Jays in the 2016 Saipan Baseball League last Wednesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

Ol'Aces beat Sonics in U18 division



ROSELYN B. MONROYO
The Ol'Aces' N-Nes Siech faces two 670 Sonics defenders during the second half of their U18 game in the Diaz caging last Wednesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

with his 15 markers, but he babied a lot of open shots.

In other U18 games results this week, Wong defeated the Junior Sonics last Monday, 50-46, while Rollers Red edged the Tanapag Warriors last Tuesday, 35-32.

Joseph Muna scored four of Rollers Red's last six markers, including a pair of charities

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By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Ol'Aces downed a lethargic 670 Sonics, 47-41, in their U18 division game in the Inaugural Frank M. Diaz Memorial Youth League last Wednesday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

The Ol'Aces showed more energy in the game, resulting to several fastbreak plays in the second half, while the Sonics misfired from the foul line and muffed easy layups in the homestretch.

The Sonics were just down by nine, 36-45, with still four minutes left in the match, but went 0-for-4 in their first two trips from the stripe, while

Mike Arciaga and Patrick Salalila missed point-blanked shots, allowing the Ol'Aces to protect their safe lead.



The Sonics made only two field goals in the meltdown with Djay Ong finally ending the drought with his triple, down to just 2.3 seconds in the match. Mike Espinosa scored the two other points of the Sonics when he hit 2-for-4 from the line.

While the Sonics seemed to bleed for baskets, the Ol'Aces played a steady offense and were hustling for loose balls to earn second-chance points. Napu Atalig led the Ol'Aces with his 13 points, while Aiferson Atan chipped in 12.

Espinosa paced the Sonics

Villagomez leads Golden Boot race

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MP United's Gillian Villagomez is leading the Golden Boot race in the girls U15 division of the 2016 NMIFA Youth Spring League.

In six games, the many-time CNMI youth team member recorded 15 goals and is the only player in the division so far to hit double figures. She had his most goals (five) in their 14-1 rout of Paire last Feb. 20. Villagomez then got four apiece in their 9-0 shutout versus Tan Holdings on last Feb. 27 and in the 4-5 loss to Shirley's last March 19 before the league took a break in observance of the Holy Week. The



MP United forward tallied one goal each in their 2-3 defeat at the hands of Shirley's on Feb. 13 and 2-5 loss to Kanoa last March 5.

Villagomez is ahead of Kanoa's Paulyn Grace Joyce, who earned nine, while the former's teammate Maaya

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO
MP United's Gillian Villagomez, right, seen here battling the possession against Shirley's FC's Katrina Costales, left, leads the Golden Boot race in the U15 division of NMIFA spring league.